



User's Guide



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INTRODUCTION

Creative's new Digital VCR card utilizes the latest advances in video record/playback technology to bring you a high quality video recorder at a breakthrough price. With Digital VCR, you have complete control over your television viewing; watch what you want when you want to watch it. You can finally personalize your television viewing experience.

Minimum System Requirements

- Genuine IBM® PC or 100% compatible
- Intel® Celeron®, Pentium® II, or AMD-K6® processor (or higher) running at 400MHz or higher
- 64MB of system memory
- 4GB or larger hard disk drive (20GB or larger strongly recommended)
- Graphics card capable of displaying at least 65,000 colors
- One available PCI 2.1 compliant slot
- Sound Blaster® or other audio card with speakers or headphones
- CD-ROM drive for software installation
- DirectX® 7.0 or higher
- Microsoft® Windows® 98, Windows Me, Windows 2000 (Drivers are certified)
(For Windows XP, use Windows 2000 Drivers)
- Analog/digital cable, satellite or TV antenna required for viewing or recording television signals

Product Overview

Digital VCR comes with a hardware and software package designed to help you get the most out of your new product.

Included Hardware

- Digital VCR Card
- Infrared remote sensor
- Digital VCR Remote Control
- Application Software CD-ROM
- S-Video/Composite adapter cable
- 1/8"- RCA audio adapter

Product Features

- High-quality MPEG-2 recording and playback
- Full-featured remote control
- Time shifting allows replay of live TV signals
- Variable recording and playback quality settings

Hardware Connections

- Antenna/Cable RF tuner input
- Composite/S-Video input
- Stereo Audio Inputs
- Infrared I/O

Text Conventions Used in This Document

Throughout this User's Guide you will see reference to dialog box buttons, remote control buttons, software pages, and menu items. In each case, descriptive text formatting will be used to indicate the specific type of action to be taken.

Standard Text

- ❑ **Bold Text** is used to indicate a button that can be pressed in a software dialog box. For example, "Press the **Cancel** button to exit".
- ❑ A menu item or other software page also appears in **Bold Text**. For example, "Click the Start Menu, and go to **Settings > Control Panel**".
- ❑ Buttons on the remote control are indicated with a special **BUTTON FONT**. For example, "Press the **GUIDE** button".

Special Text Formats

- ❑ Notes and warnings appear in a special format designed to attract attention.



NOTE: This is the special Note and Warning text format.

- ❑ Shortcuts and tips also appear in a special format.



SHORTCUT: This is the Shortcut and Tip text format.

Icons



- Button icons appear in the margins accompanying step-by-step instructions, feature descriptions, and other important information.

Cross-References

Throughout this document you will see references to information that appears elsewhere in the document. Each of these references will act as a link. Click on the reference itself to jump to the page containing the new information.

For example, in the text “To review the software installation procedure, see *page 22.*”, try clicking on the reference to the page number. The text will move forward to display that page in the PDF window.

In this example, “To review the process for setting up a recording, see “Recording Setup” on page 57.”, clicking on any of the text that is part of the reference will invoke the link. Try it.

HARDWARE INSTALLATION

1

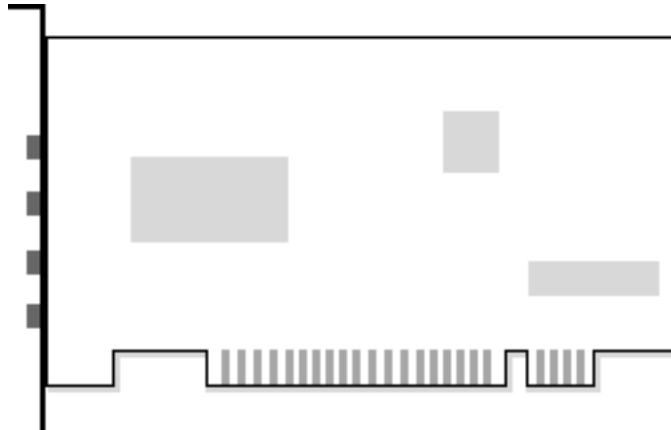
Installing the Digital VCR Hardware in Your PC

Complete installation involves adding the Digital VCR card to your PC, connecting the Infrared Receiver, and connecting your television signals to the card.

Install the Digital VCR card

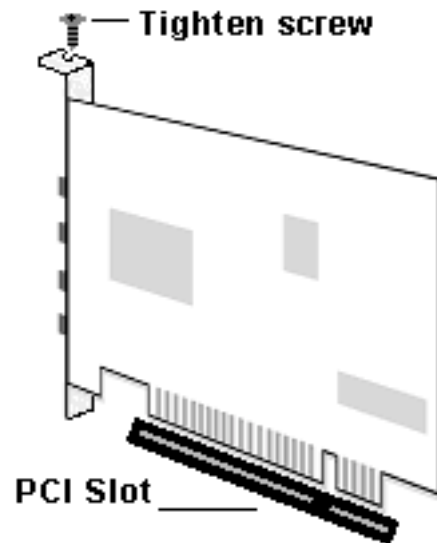


NOTE: If you purchased your PC with the Digital VCR card pre-installed, you can skip this step.



Follow these steps to install the Digital VCR card:

1. Turn off the power to your computer and any connected devices.
2. Disconnect the power cord from the electrical source.
3. Touch a metal surface on the computer to ground yourself and discharge any static electricity.
4. Remove the cover from the computer.
5. Locate a free PCI expansion slot for the Digital VCR card.
6. Remove the screw and metal cover plate from the expansion slot.
7. Align the Digital VCR card with the PCI slot and press it into the slot. The card must be seated firmly in the slot.
8. Secure the Digital VCR card with the screw removed from the slot cover.
9. Replace the cover on the computer.



You are now ready to connect your television signals and the Infrared Receiver to the Digital VCR card.

Plug in the Infrared Receiver

The Digital VCR card has a dedicated jack for the Infrared Receiver (see the diagram below).

Installation is simple:

1. Plug the Infrared Receiver connector into the jack on the Digital VCR card marked **Infrared Receiver Input**.
2. Position the LED receiver of the Infrared Receiver near your PC monitor so that signals transmitted from the Remote Control are not blocked by any other components.

The Digital VCR Card Connectors

Refer to this diagram while reading the following section about connecting your TV signals to the Digital VCR card.

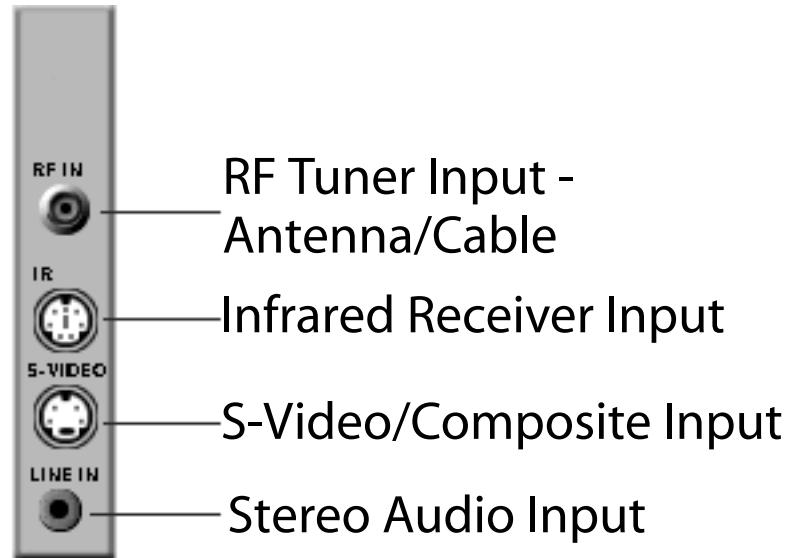


Diagram 1

RF Tuner Input - Antenna/Cable - Plug your cable or antenna TV signal in here; the signal type is selected in the Setup Wizard.

Infrared Receiver Infrared I/O - Plug in the connector found on the Infrared Receiver cable here.

Composite/S-Video Input - Plug your video signal in here if your equipment has separate video and audio outputs. The signal type is selected in the Setup Wizard. This jack can also be used to connect an external video source, such as a digital camera.

Stereo Audio Input - If your equipment uses separate video and audio outputs, such as a video camera or DVD player, attach the audio output here.

Connect Your TV Signal to the Card's RF Tuner Input

The Digital VCR needs to have your television signal connected to its video input jack to enable viewing and recording of live TV signals. Depending on the type of equipment you have, you will need to connect one or more cables from the equipment's video and/or audio outputs to the Digital VCR card.

The Digital VCR card has two video input connectors— a coaxial connector and a dual-purpose S-Video/Composite Video connector that is switched by the software. (Refer to Diagram 1 above for connection locations.)

The picture quality of the S-Video signal is superior to that of the composite video output on most devices that offer both types of signals. If your cable box or other receiver offers an S-Video output, use it instead of the composite video output. When using S-Video/composite you'll also need to connect the audio signal with a separate cable.

Only one set of connections needs to be made to Digital VCR. For instance, if you connect an antenna, cable, or satellite TV signal with a coaxial cable to Digital VCR RF/Tuner input, you would not need to make any other audio or video connections. If you connect a Cable or Satellite box using the S-Video input on the Digital VCR card, you would also need to connect the audio signals coming from the Cable or Satellite box, but would not need to connect anything to the coaxial input.



NOTE: While making connections between the Digital VCR card and your television equipment, all equipment should be turned off.

TV Signal Types

Follow the instructions in this section that pertain to your specific type of television signal. See Diagram 1 above for a close-up of the Digital VCR connectors.

Antenna

If you use a rooftop antenna or “rabbit ears” set-top antenna, connect its coaxial cable to the **Antenna/Cable Input** on the Digital VCR card. If your antenna is not fitted with a coaxial connector, you will have to use an adapter (available separately) to connect the antenna signal to the Digital VCR card.

See the connection diagram below.

Basic Antenna or Cable Connections

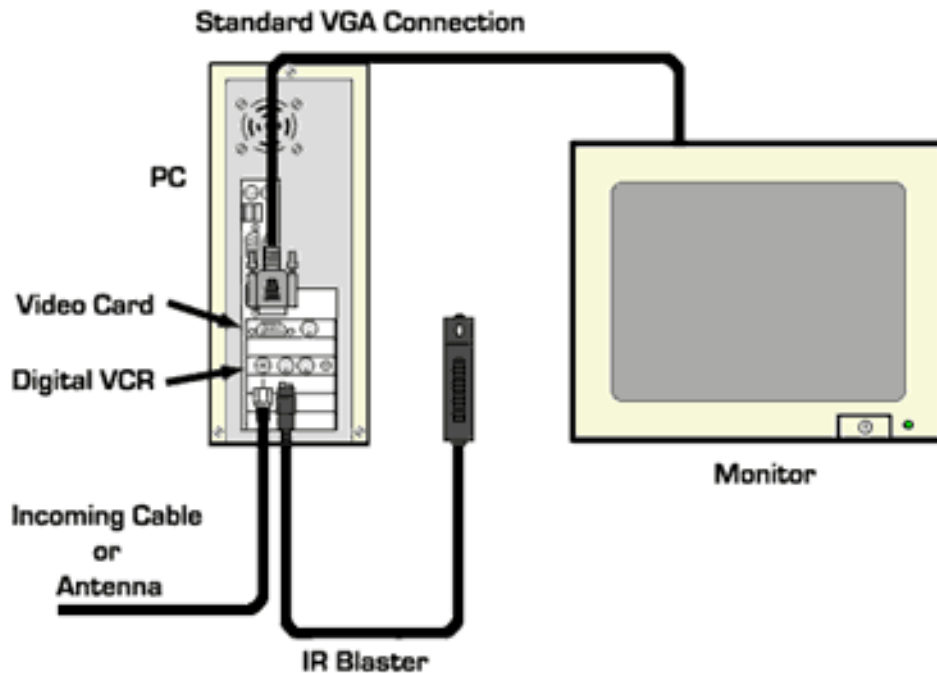


Diagram 2

Cable

If your cable TV connection comes directly from a wall outlet, connect a coaxial cable from the wall outlet to the **Antenna/Cable Input** on the Digital VCR card. See Diagram 2 above.

Cable Box or Digital Cable Box

If your cable TV connection terminates in a cable TV box, it may have more than one set of output connectors available (a single coaxial signal and/or separate audio and video output).

If your cable box has a single-cable output, connect a standard coaxial cable from the cable box output to the **Antenna/Cable Input** on the Digital VCR card. See Diagram 3 below. No other connections are necessary.

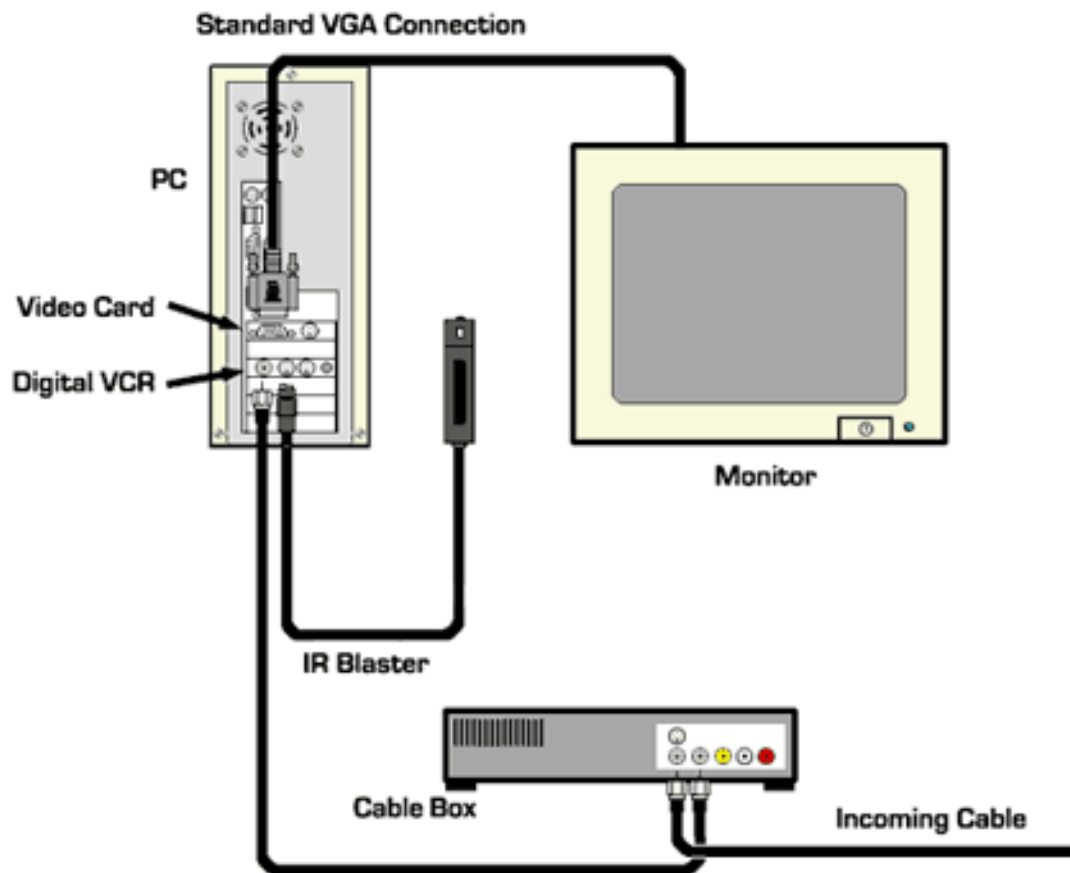


Diagram 3

Cable Box - with separate audio and video connections

To use the separate audio and video outputs from a cable TV box, two separate signals must be connected – audio and video. First connect the video output of the cable box to the combination **S-Video/Composite Input** on the Digital VCR card. This connection can be made with the S-Video output of the cable box (if available) or the standard video output. See area #1 in Diagram 4 below. Connecting the coaxial output on the cable box is not necessary.

To use the S-Video output, use a standard S-Video cable (available separately) to connect the S-Video output of the cable box to the Digital VCR card's video input.

When using the standard composite video output from a cable box, most devices make this connection with an RCA jack. This requires the use of the S-Video/Composite video adapter cable supplied with your Digital VCR. See area #2 in the diagram below. Plug the supplied adapter into the card. Plug the video output from the cable box into the RCA end of the adapter cable.

Next, connect the audio signal from the cable box to the Audio Input on the Digital VCR card. Audio will then be played through your computer's sound card.

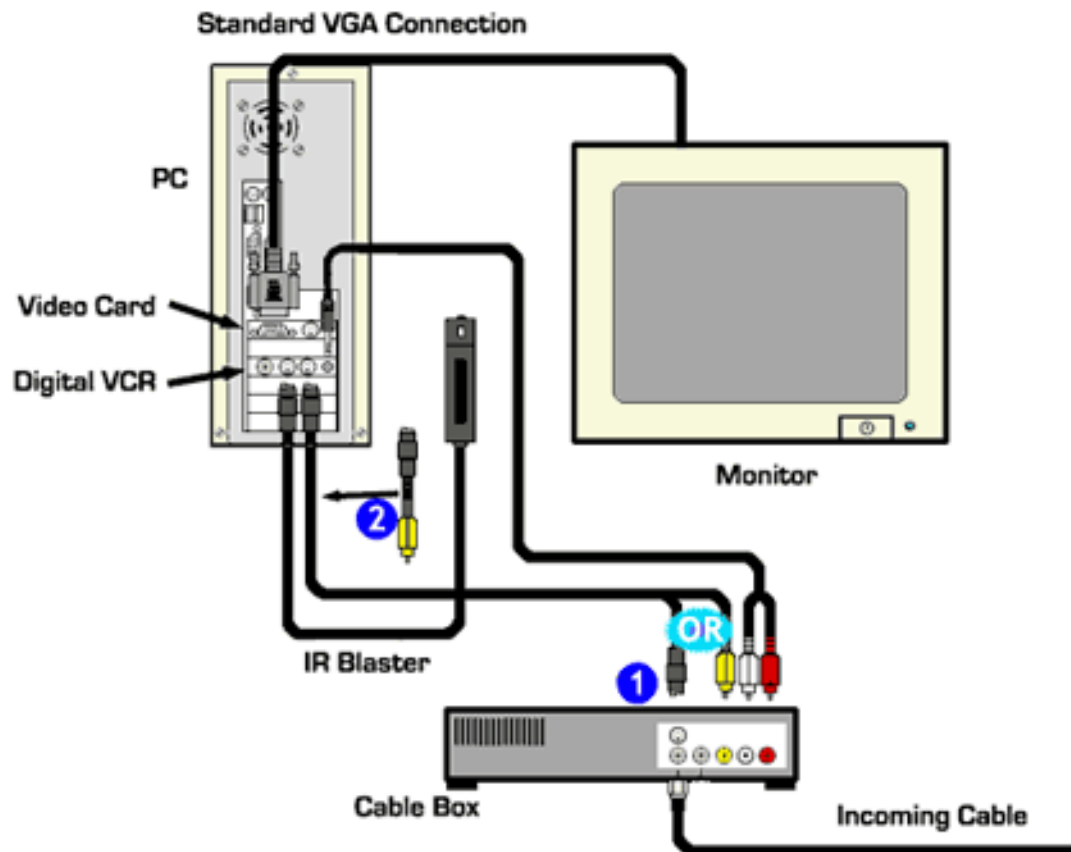


Diagram 4

Satellite

Your satellite TV box may have more than one set of output connectors available (a single coaxial signal and/or separate audio and video output).

If your satellite box has a single-cable output, connect a standard coaxial cable from the satellite box output to the **Antenna/Cable Input** on the Digital VCR card. No other connections are necessary. See Diagram 5 below.

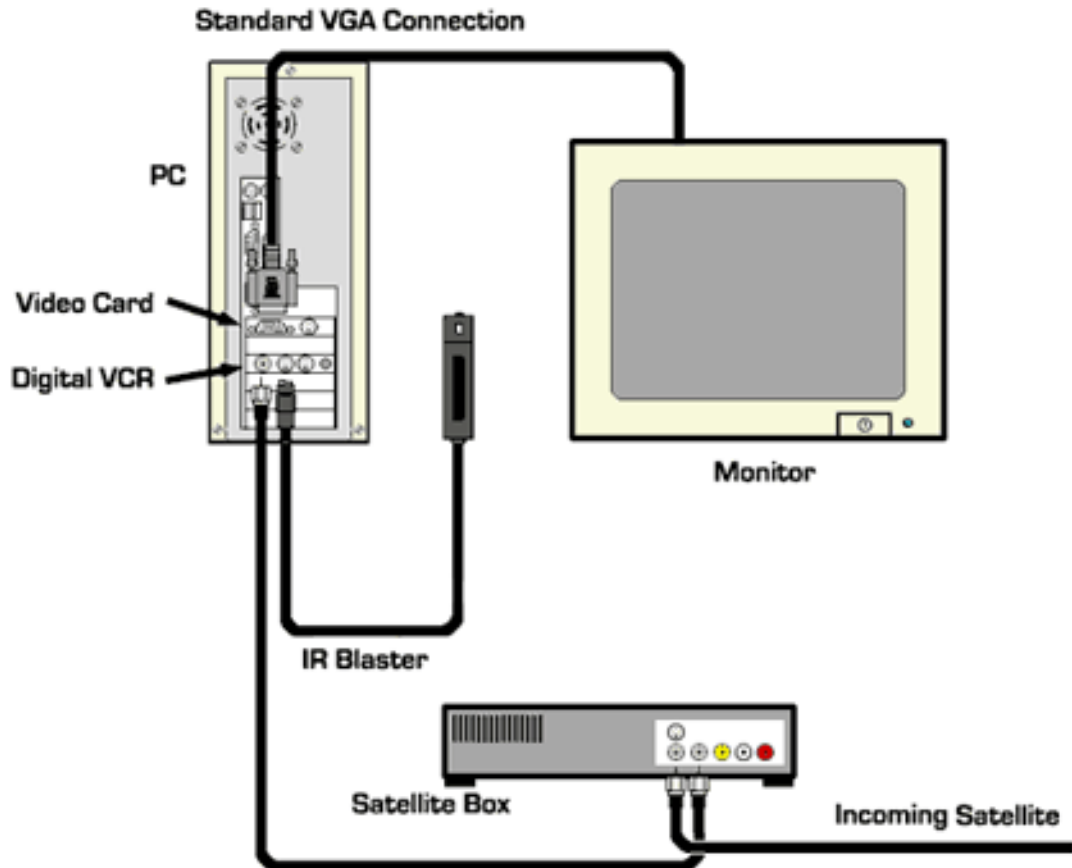


Diagram 5

Satellite Box - with separate audio and video connections

To use the separate audio and video outputs from a satellite TV box, two signals must be connected – *audio* and *video*. First connect the video output of the satellite box to the combination S-Video/Composite Input on the Digital VCR card. This connection can be made with the S-Video output of the satellite box (if available) or the standard video output. See area #1 in Diagram 4 below. Connecting the coaxial output on the satellite box is not necessary.

To use the S-Video output, use a standard S-Video cable (available separately) to connect the S-Video output of the satellite box to the Digital VCR card's video input.

When using the standard composite video output from a satellite box, most devices make this connection with an RCA jack. This requires the use of the S-Video/Composite video adapter cable supplied with your Digital VCR. See area #2 in the diagram below. Plug the supplied adapter into the Digital VCR card. Plug the video output from the satellite box into the RCA end of the adapter cable.

Next, connect the audio signal from the satellite box to the **Audio Input** on the Digital VCR card. Audio will then be played through your computer's sound card.

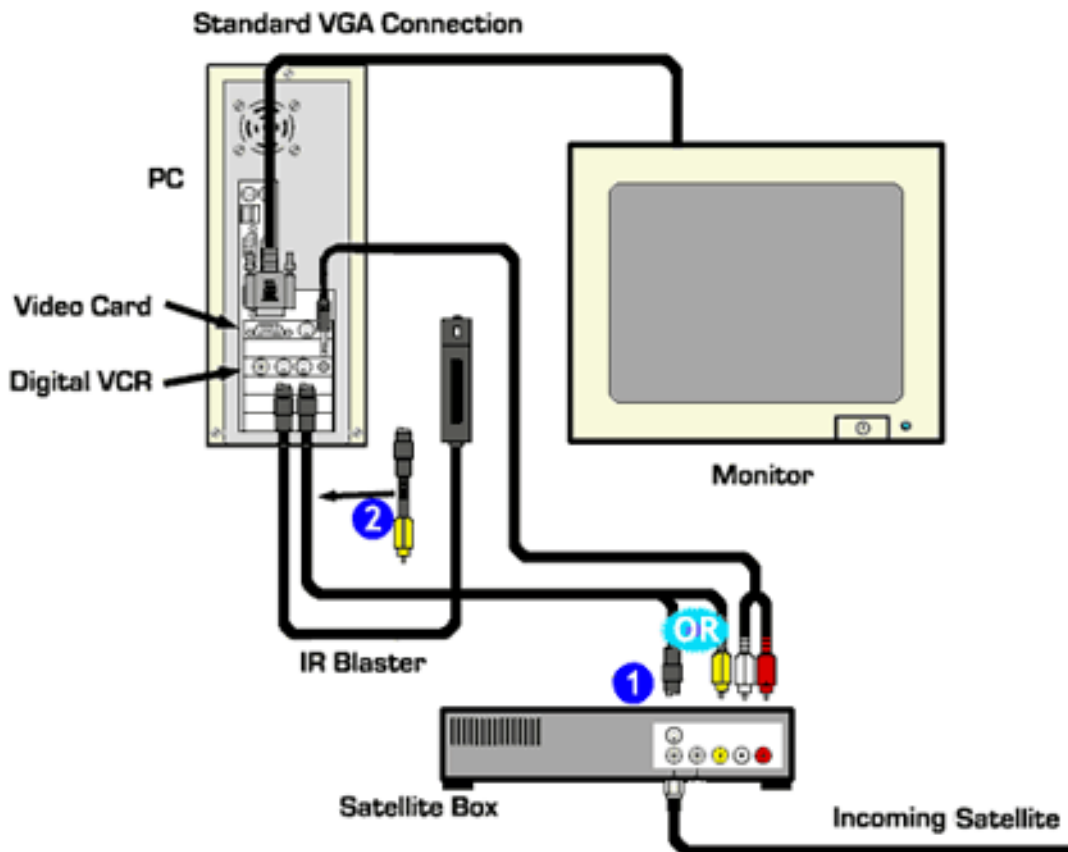


Diagram 6

SOFTWARE INSTALLATION

2

Overview

This section includes information about driver installation, performance settings, and Digital VCR application installation.

About the CD-ROM

The CD-ROM supplied with your system contains the Digital VCR drivers, Installer application, documentation, and a Setup Wizard. The Installer application will copy all necessary Digital VCR application components onto your hard drive. The Setup Wizard will walk you through the steps needed to get your Digital VCR up and running in no time.

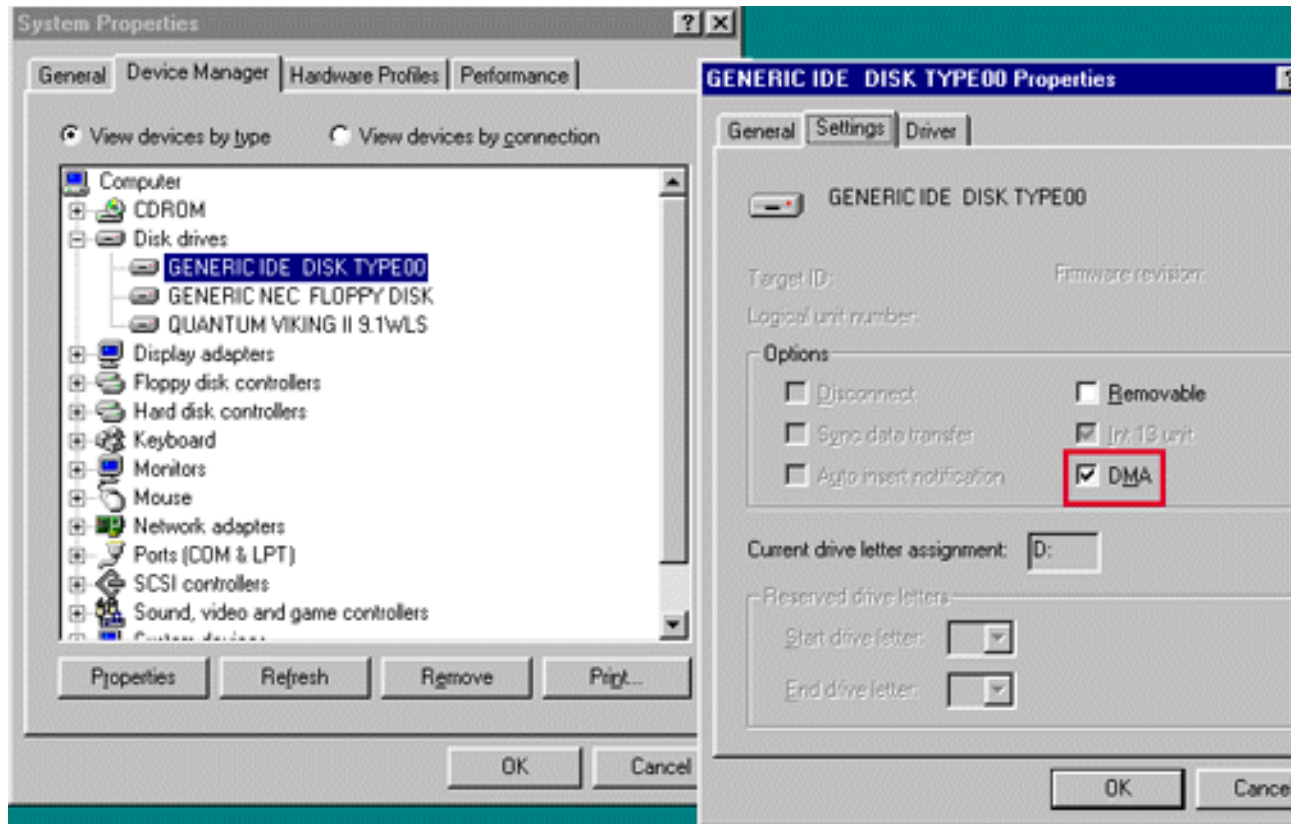
Performance Settings

DMA

For optimal performance, check that your hard drive has the DMA option checked.

To check this setting if your PC is using Windows 98 and Windows ME:

1. From the desktop, right-click on **My Computer**.
2. Select **Properties** to open the System Properties window.
3. Select the **Device Manager** tab.
4. In the Device Manager, make sure that the **View devices by type** radio button is selected.
5. Locate the **Disk Drives** item in the Device Manager list.
6. Click the plus sign (+) next to the **Disk Drives** item to expand it and show the contents.
7. Locate the entry for the hard drive that will be used for recording.
8. Double-click the drive's name to display its Properties window. (If there is no specific listing for your drive you can use Generic IDE Disk Type 00, the default setting.)
9. Select the **Settings** tab.
10. In the **Options** section, confirm that **DMA** is checked.
11. Click the **OK** button to return to the Device Manager.
12. In the Device Manager, click the **OK** button to exit.



If your system is running Windows 2000 or Windows XP, follow these steps:

1. From the desktop, right-click on **My Computer**.
2. Select **Properties** to open the System Properties window.
3. Select the **Hardware** tab.
4. In the Hardware section, click on the **Device Manager** button.
5. The Device Manager window will open.
6. In the Device Manager, make sure that the **View devices by type** radio button is selected.
7. Locate the **Disk Drives** item in the Device Manager list.
8. Click the plus sign (+) next to the Disk Drives item to expand it and show the contents.
9. Locate the entry for the hard drive that will be used for recording.
10. Double-click the drive's name to display its Properties window. (If there is no specific listing for your drive you can use Generic IDE Type 00, the default setting.)
11. Select the **Settings** tab.
12. In the Options section, confirm that **DMA** is checked.
13. Click the **OK** button to return to the Device Manager.
14. Close the Device Manager to exit.

Driver Installation

A complete installation involves two steps—installing the device driver and installing the application software. The device driver is the software that allows your PC to communicate with your new Digital VCR card.

You have the option of installing the device driver manually or letting the Installation Wizard (setup.exe) perform that task for you. The end result will be the same.



NOTE: We suggest that you allow the Installation Wizard to install the device driver; this will save you both time and effort.

Installing the Device Driver

After you have installed the Digital VCR card in your computer, the Windows operating system will need to install the device driver for the new hardware. You should be prompted to do this by the Add New Hardware Wizard the first time your PC is started after installing the Digital VCR card.

When the Add New Hardware Wizard window appears offering to install a driver for your new hardware device, simply click the **Cancel** button to proceed. The driver is not installed at this time. You will proceed to the standard Windows desktop. You can skip the driver installation steps found below and begin the software installation. See *"Installing the Digital VCR Software" on page 22*.

Installing the Device Driver Manually

Skip this section if you are installing the device driver via the Installation Wizard method. See *"Installing the Digital VCR Software" on page 22*.

To manually install the device driver, or to update the driver with a new version, continue on to the next section.

The sequence of steps is slightly different depending on the version of the Windows operating system installed on your computer. Instructions for each version appear below.

If you are using Windows 98 or Windows 2000, follow these steps. When prompted for the missing driver:

1. Click the **Next** button from the Add New Hardware Wizard to begin the process.
2. At the next prompt, select the **Search for the best driver for your device** radio button.
3. Click the **Next** button.
4. The Wizard prompts you for a location where the driver can be found. Select **CD-ROM**.
5. Insert the CD-ROM into your CD-ROM drive. (The driver is located on the root level of the CD-ROM.)
6. Click the **Next** button to continue.
7. Windows will confirm that it has found the driver.
8. Continue by clicking the **Next** button.
9. The files are copied and installed on your computer.
10. Click the **Finish** button to complete the install.

If your computer is running the Windows Me or Windows XP operating system, follow these steps:

1. When the Add New Hardware Wizard opens, select the radio button next to **Automatic search for a better driver**.
2. Insert the Digital VCR software CD-ROM into your drive.
3. Hit the **Next** button in the Add New Hardware Wizard to continue.
4. Windows will search for the new driver and proceed to install it.

5. When finished, Windows will present a text screen stating that the driver has been installed successfully.
6. Hit the **Finish** button to exit.

Installing the Digital VCR Software

Installing the Software for the First Time

The steps below will guide you through the process of installing your new software. If your CD-ROM is set to auto-launch, the Installation Wizard (setup.exe) will start immediately. Follow the prompts to begin installing the software on your computer.



NOTE: The Digital VCR card must be installed in your PC before performing these steps.

To start the Installer manually:

1. Locate the Digital VCR installation program, **Setup.exe**, found on your install disk.
2. Double-click on the **Setup.exe** file to begin installing the Digital VCR software.
3. The Welcome screen opens.
4. Click the **Next** button to continue.
5. Read the license agreements presented by the installer.
6. Click the **Yes** button to agree and continue, or click **No** to exit the installer.
7. On the next page, select a destination folder. The installer will place all of the program files in this location. A default location is already selected. Click the **Next** button to accept the default location or click the **Browse** button to select a different folder.
8. On the next page, select a program folder for the application icons and shortcuts. A default location is already selected.
9. Click the **Next** button to continue.

The Installation Wizard places the Digital VCR application on your hard drive, along with a copy of the Setup Wizard, help files, and documentation. The device driver for your new PCI card is also installed at this point. After copying the application software to your hard drive, the installer proceeds automatically to the Setup Wizard. The Setup Wizard windows are explained in detail in the next section.

Software updates are explained in a separate section later in this document. See *“Software Updates” on page 101*.

Information on removing the software is also available. See *“Removing The Software” on page 94*.

SETUP WIZARD OPTIONS

Introduction

This section describes in detail the options and user preferences that are part of the Setup Wizard. You must complete all the steps and save the preference settings before you can use your Video Blaster Digital VCR. Remember that you can change any of your initial settings later by running the Setup Wizard again.

Pressing the **Exit** button on any of the pages will allow you to exit the Setup Wizard. You will be prompted with a warning message if you do so because you have not saved any user settings at this point. You can choose to exit without saving your changes or return to the Setup Wizard to continue.

Running the Setup Wizard

The Video Blaster Digital VCR Setup Wizard is an automated utility program designed specifically for the Video Blaster Digital VCR card. It will assist you in choosing record/playback options and setting user preferences.

Before You Run the Setup Wizard

Before starting the Setup Wizard, you need to install the Video Blaster Digital VCR card, connect the Infrared Receiver, and connect your television source (satellite, cable, antenna, etc.) to the card. Refer to the sections on Hardware Installation (*page 11*) and Software Installation (*page 19*) if you have not yet completed these steps.

How to Start the Setup Wizard

The Setup Wizard is used under two sets of circumstances—during a new installation and when you are updating your settings and preferences.

New Installation

When installing the Video Blaster Digital VCR for the first time, the Setup Wizard will launch automatically as part of the software installation process when you run the SETUP.EXE installer.

Existing Installation

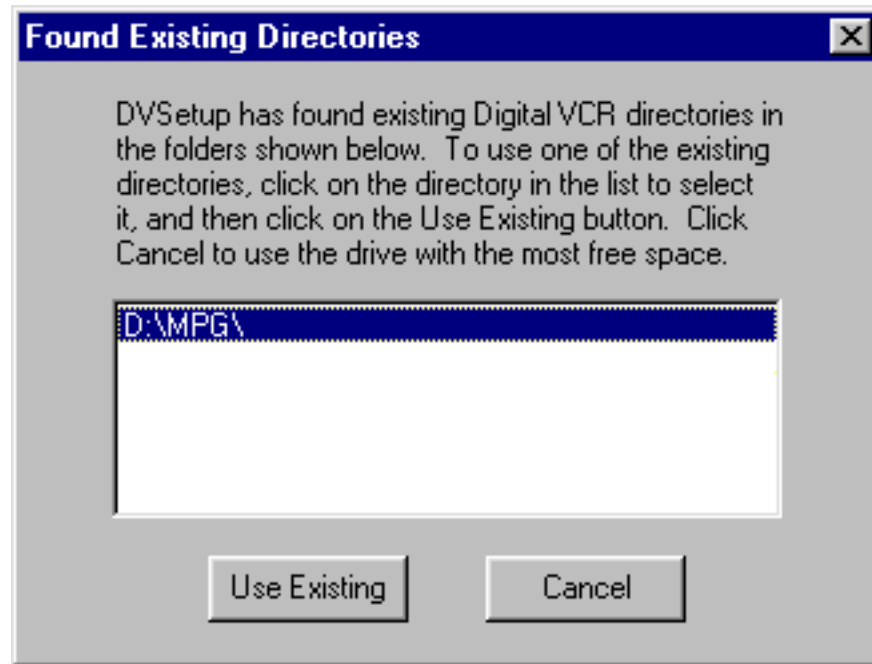
A copy of the Setup Wizard is placed in the Video Blaster Digital VCR directory so that you can make changes to your preference settings later. To open the Setup Wizard you can select it from the desktop's Start menu. To do this, go to **Start > Programs > Creative > VB Digital VCR > Reconfigure Digital VCR**.

Directory Selection

If the Setup Wizard has been run at least one time successfully, you will see a prompt showing the location of your MPG directory (This holds your recorded files.) To continue using the same folder for future recordings, click the **Use Existing** button.

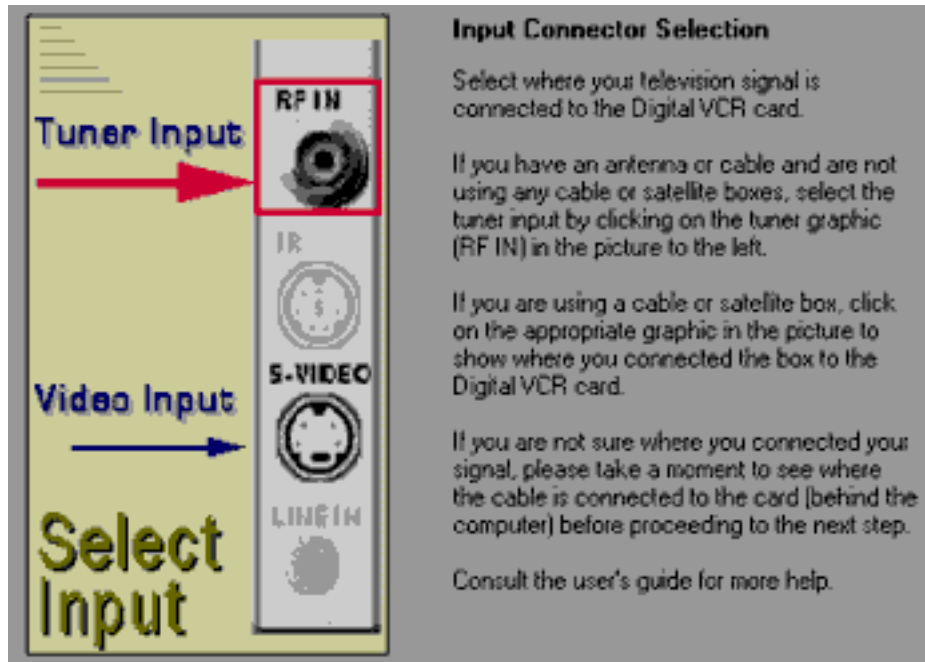


NOTE: New users will not see this page until the Setup Wizard has been run completely one time.



Input Connector Selection

Previously, in the Hardware Setup section, you connected your TV device's signal output to the inputs on the Video Blaster Digital VCR card. On this page, select the input where the TV signal is connected. When finished, press the **Next** button. Settings for the specific type of signals will be selected on the following pages.



NOTE: Important! You must select at least one video option on the video input pages of the Wizard in order to proceed with the setup.

Tuner Input Selection

If you selected Video Input on the previous page, this page will be skipped.

These options tell the Video Blaster Digital VCR software what type of live TV signal is connected to the RF Antenna/Cable input jack on the card. (See diagram) Select the one that describes your situation from the pop-up menu.



NOTE: Only one input source can be selected. If you select one of the Tuner Input options on this page and then choose a Video option on the next page, a warning dialog will appear. The option selected on the other page will then be set back to "none".

The Tuner Input selections are:

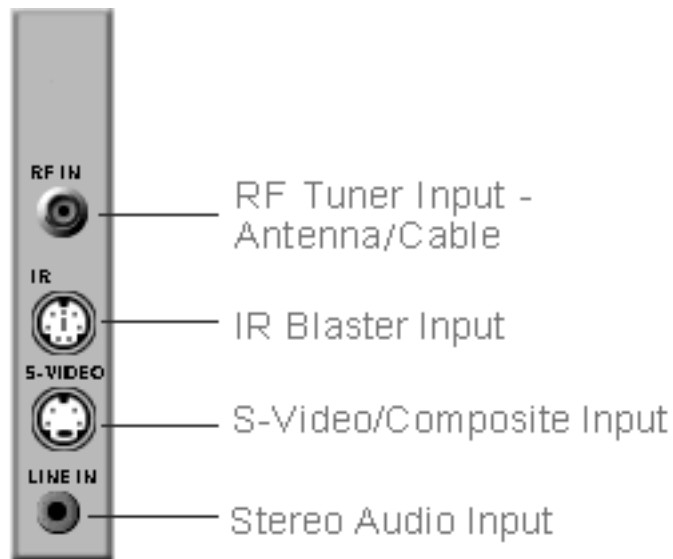
- **Antenna** - A rooftop antenna or set-top "rabbit ears" device
- **Cable** - Use this if you have Cable TV service but do not use a Cable Box.

- **Cable Box** - Cable TV service that terminates in a dedicated Cable TV box. This option requires that you also select a channel to be used to receive TV signals from your cable box. Pick the channel from the pop-up menu. (Usually this is either channel 3 or channel 4.)



NOTE: Most cable/satellite boxes tune to channels 2, 3, or 4. It is possible to use other channel numbers. Channel numbers between 2 and 13 are most common, as they directly correspond to the VHF channel numbers on a standard TV set. If you need to use a number higher than 13, be aware that using these numbers will tune to cable channels 14 and above, not the UHF channels with the same numbers.

- **Digital Cable Box** - Cable TV service that terminates in a dedicated digital Cable TV box. This option also requires that you select a channel to be used to receive TV signals from your cable box. Select the channel from the pop-up menu. (Usually channel 3 or channel 4.)
- **Satellite Box** - If you receive TV signals via a satellite service, choose this option. You need to specify the channel that your satellite box uses to transmit TV signals to your television. Select the channel from the pop-up menu. (Usually channel 3 or channel 4.)
- **None** - When using the Video input instead of the Tuner input, select "none" from the pop-up list. The Video input preferences are selected on the next page of the Wizard.



Video Input Selection

If you connected your device to the video input of the Digital VCR card instead of the RF Tuner input, select a source type from the pop-up menu.

The video input jack on the Video Blaster Digital VCR card accepts multiple types of signals. The exact format of the video signal (composite or S-Video) is selected on the next page of the Wizard.



NOTE: Remember, only one input source can be selected. If you select one of the Video Input options on this page after selecting a Tuner option on the previous page, a warning dialog will appear. The option selected on the previous page (Tuner Options) will then be set back to “none”.

To use the Video Input as the source, select a device from the list that describes the hardware that you are connecting to the Video Blaster Digital VCR card. The choices are:

- **none** - the default - use this setting if you have a device connected to the RF Tuner Antenna/Cable input of the Video Blaster Digital VCR card.
- **Cable Box**
- **Digital Cable Box**
- **Satellite Box**
- **Other** - select this if you are using equipment not described in the above choices such as a DVD player, VCR, digital camera, or video camcorder.



NOTE: You may need to use the supplied S-Video/Composite adapter to connect the RCA connector output found on some devices to this jack.

Video Format Selection

The video input jack on the Video Blaster Digital VCR card looks like a standard S-Video jack. It is actually a multipurpose connector; the software sets the signal type present at this jack.



NOTE: This setting does not need to be changed if you do not have a separate video signal connected to the S-Video/Composite input of the Video Blaster Digital VCR card.

There are two choices:

- **S-Video** - Equipment with an S-Video output normally uses a multi-pin connector.
- **Composite Video** - Equipment with an Composite Video output normally uses an RCA type connector. Use the supplied adapter cable to make this connection.

Video Connectors



RCA



S-VIDEO

Select the format that corresponds to the video device whose output is connected to the S-Video/Composite jack on the Video Blaster Digital VCR card.

Video Recording Options

The video recording options allow you to choose settings that balance the recording quality and the amount of disk space used to store the programs.

Default Quality

This setting chooses the default setting that will be used for all video recording. You can change this preference later by running the Setup Wizard again, or from the Main Menu.

You can also override this default setting when you schedule a program for recording. For example, you could use the Good (EP) setting for most general recording duties but opt for a setting of Best (SP) to record a sports playoff game. This change is made on the recording setup page at the time you initiate the recording process (for either an immediate recording or a scheduled recording).

There are four preset video quality settings:

- Best (SP)
- Better (LP)
- Good (EP)
- Economy (XP)

The XP, EP, LP, and SP quality names are similar to those used in the familiar VCR tape format. The Best (SP) setting has the highest picture quality but also uses the most disk space. The Economy (XP) setting uses the least disk space. Additional information on recording and quality settings appears later in this document. See *"Recording Quality Settings" on page 55*.

Storage Requirements

When a video quality setting is chosen, the storage requirements for that setting will be displayed next to the pop-up box. This read-only text will show the approximate number of megabytes required to store a minute of recorded program.

Program Options

This page contains settings that control how your Video Blaster Digital VCR starts up, screen size settings, and screen position settings.

The **Automatically Power-up the Computer** check box is selected by default. When checked, this setting allows the Digital VCR software to start your PC in order to record a program that was scheduled. By default the application is also launched as a service in the background whenever you boot-up your PC.



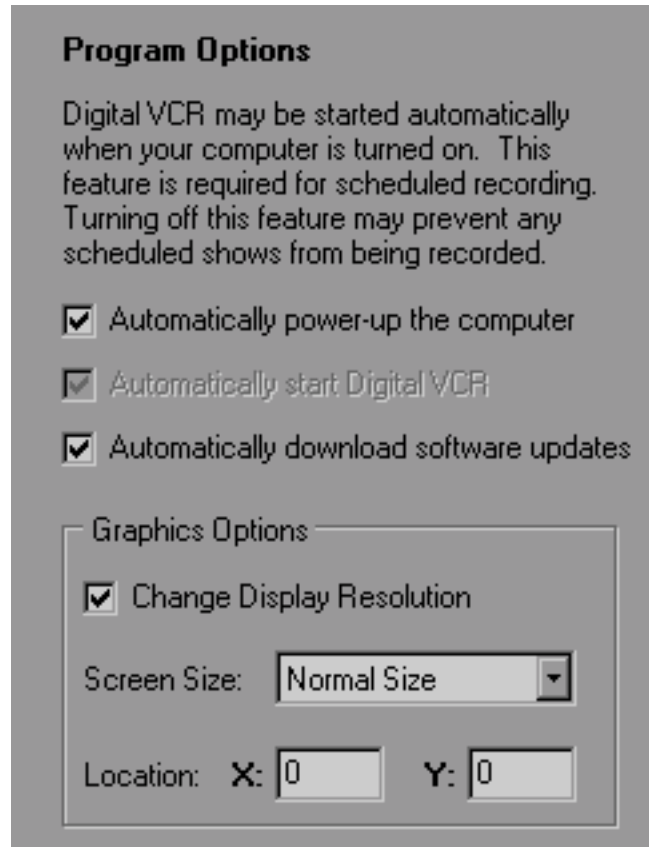
NOTE: Some computers do not respond to these boot-up commands. Consult the computer manufacturer's documentation for additional information about power management settings.

The **Automatically start Digital VCR** check box is selected by default. If the **Automatically power-up the computer** check box is selected, this item will be greyed out. When checked, this means that the Video Blaster Digital VCR software will be launched as a service in the background when your PC is booted. To uncheck this option, first deselect the **Automatically Power-up the Computer** check box.

Also included on this page is a set of Graphics Options. These settings can be used to set the default size and location of the Video Blaster Digital VCR display on your PC monitor. When the **Change Display Resolution** box is checked, the parameters set in the boxes below will be in force.

The **Screen Size** pop-up selector is used to pick a default screen size. The choices are:

- **Full Screen** - Digital VCR fills your PC display
- **Normal Size** - Window mode, largest size - 640 x 480 pixels
- **Half Size** - Window mode, medium size - 320 x 240 pixels
- **Quarter Size** - Window mode, smallest size - 160 x 120 pixels



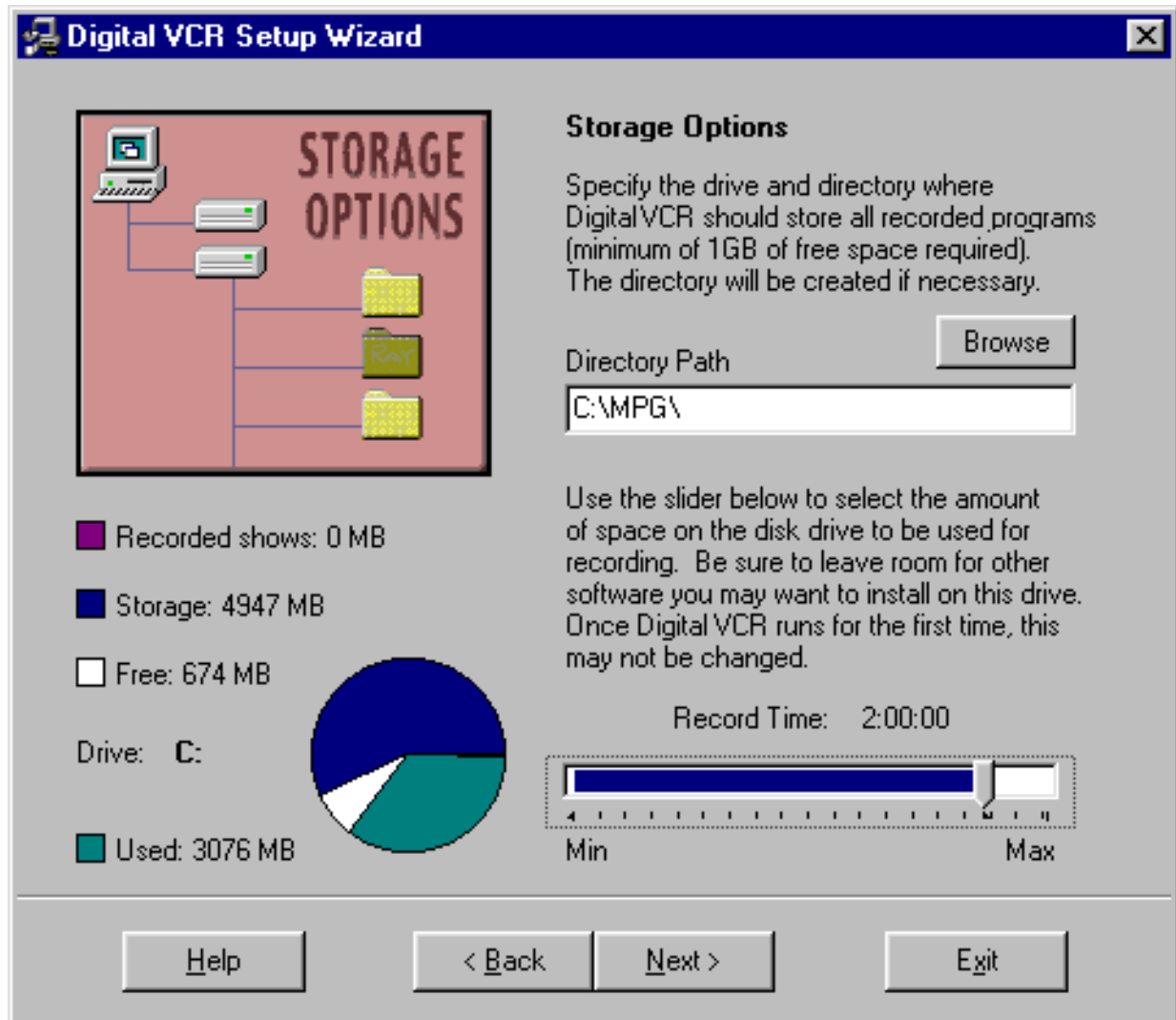
The Location X/Y boxes allow you to position the windowed display at a specific location on your screen. Enter a coordinate for each, as needed. The X parameter refers to the left/right screen location, while the Y parameter refers to the up/down screen location.

Storage Options

The Video Blaster Digital VCR software needs to know where to store the recorded program files created on your system. This section details setting up the required file paths and directories on your PC.

This screen includes information readouts and a pie chart showing the current hard disk's:

- Selected Recording Space
- Directory Path
- Free Space Available
- Used Disk Space



Drive Selection

In a system with a single hard drive, you can simply use the default selections that appear in the Directory Path text box. The default file storage location is the "C" drive. A folder named "MPG" will be created automatically.

In a system with multiple hard drives, use this option to designate the specific hard drive where you want the Video Blaster Digital VCR to store your recorded files. This will be the default location for all recording and time shift files unless you specify an alternate location by running the Wizard again. The largest hard drive in your system is selected by default. The Directory Path is preset to the directory named "MPG", created by the Video Blaster Digital VCR installer.

To change the drive selection, simply highlight the selection and retype the name. For example, the default recording location will be "C:\MPG". Drive "C" is the default location of the primary hard disk on most PCs. If you have a large secondary hard disk designated as drive "D" (or other letter) on your system that you want to use for Video Blaster Digital VCR storage instead, simply change the drive letter in this line to "D" (or other letter, as needed). The recording destination would then read "D:\MPG".

To select a specific folder or other hard drive without typing in a path name, press the **Browse** button. Navigate to the desired drive/directory using the standard Windows interface. Click **OK** in the selection dialog box to choose the alternate location and return to the Wizard.

Directory Path Setup

On the selected hard drive, the Video Blaster Digital VCR software needs a default directory in which to store recorded programs. The default hard drive location is the "C" drive, or largest available drive, as noted above. The setup software will automatically create and use a directory named "MPG" on that drive unless you specify another location. You can also choose an alternate directory name if desired.

To use a directory name other than the default "MPG", select the default name in the Directory Path text box and type in the desired new name.



NOTE: If you return to the Setup Wizard after saving your preferences for the first time, changing the recording directory path and/or name will not erase the old directory or its contents. Instead, a new directory is created. Disk space allocated to the original directory is not released for use by the new directory.

Select the Amount of Recording Space

Use this option to select how much of the selected default recording drive's free space is used for video recording. Digital VCR will allocate this free space now, during the installation process, to guarantee that the space you need for recording is always available. No other applications can claim this space once Digital VCR has allocated it. Be sure to leave some free hard disk space available for the installation of new applications, and for the data files created by other applications in your system.

To set the recording space amount, drag the slider to the desired value. The on-screen graphics update automatically to reflect your changes. You will be able to make changes later. The Main Menu gives you access to the Storage settings page, where you can update your disk usage settings as required. See *"Storage Configuration" on page 74*.



NOTE: If you use the same hard drive for video recording that is used as your System boot drive, be aware that Windows Virtual Memory management uses available free hard disk space, too. When selecting a size setting for recording space, leave some room on the disk for the operating system to use for its Virtual Memory needs.

Time Shift Amount

A portion of the recording space reserved in the steps above is allocated as the Time Shift buffer. This setting selects the amount of time (in minutes, using the highest quality recording mode) that you have available to use to replay live television signals. For example, a setting of "30 minutes" will allow you to rewind a show that you are currently watching, and replay any portion broadcast within the last 30 minutes.

To set the Time Shift amount, drag the slider from left to right. The Free Space and Time Shift amounts shown in the dialog box will update automatically.



NOTE: Once you have selected a recording space amount and a Time Shift buffer amount, you will not be able to reset these sizes. You can change the buffer size from the Main Menu of the application only.

Finish the Installation

The Finish page gives you one last opportunity to go back and make changes to your preferences before they are saved to disk. Use the **Back** button to review previous pages, or hit the **Finish** button to store your preferences to disk and exit the Wizard.

You also have the option of hitting the **Cancel** button if you want to exit the Wizard without saving your changes.

After the installation has completed, you will be prompted to restart your computer. Once you have restarted your computer, the Video Blaster Digital VCR is ready to use.

To Review or Change Settings Later



NOTE: New users should skip this section. Proceed to the section entitled "Setup Wizard Options".

After you have installed and set up your Video Blaster Digital VCR system initially, you can reconfigure the user settings and preferences by running the Setup Wizard again. In addition, many of the preferences can be changed from the Main Menu.

After the initial installation, the Wizard runs with a tabbed layout. This Advanced Setup mode allows easy access to the different parameter settings without the need to proceed through each page separately as you did during the first-time setup. Click any tab in the left column to access a page.

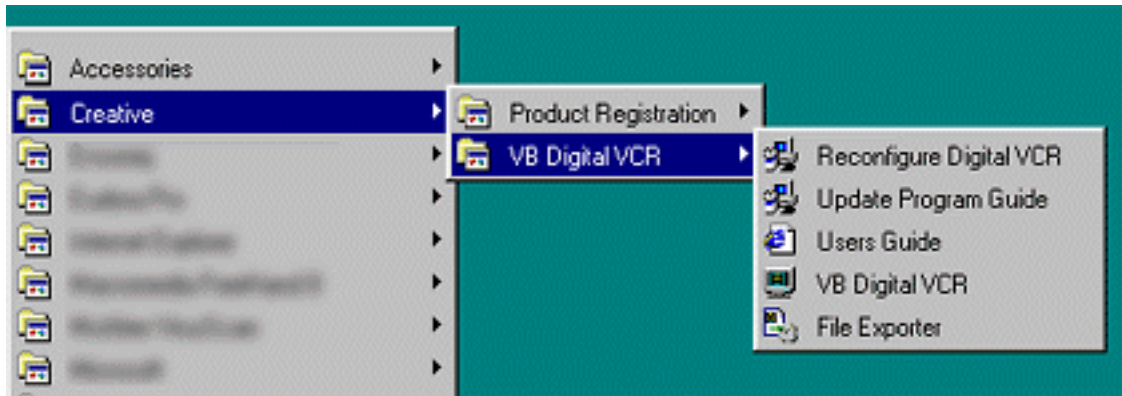
A copy of the Setup Wizard utility was placed in the Video Blaster Digital VCR program directory by the installer. The file name is "dvsetup.exe".

To run the Setup Wizard again:

1. Open the Video Blaster Digital VCR program directory. (The default location is C:\Program Files\Creative\Video Blaster Digital VCR).
2. Double-click the **dvsetup.exe** application.
3. The Wizard's Advanced Setup mode opens.
4. Select any window and make changes as needed.
5. The bottom of the page has a **Save Settings** button.
6. Clicking the **Save Settings** button will present you with a prompt asking if you want to save the changes you have made.
7. Click **Yes** to save the changes or **No** to return to the Wizard without saving your edits.



SHORTCUT: You can also start the Setup Wizard by selecting it from your Start Menu. A shortcut was placed there during the installation process. The default location is Programs > Creative > VB Digital VCR > Reconfigure Digital VCR.



NOTE: If you prefer the sequential page format of the original version of the Wizard, you can switch to it by pressing the Wizard button, located to the left of the Save Settings button. You will then be presented with the original Wizard format. Use the Back and Next buttons to move through the various windows of the Wizard. You can only access this option after running the Setup Wizard completely and saving your preferences at least once.

Exiting the Setup Wizard

You can exit the Wizard at any time by pressing the **Exit** button. If you are running the Setup Wizard for the first time, you will not save any settings by exiting at this point. *Exiting the Wizard when installing for the first time is not recommended.* A prompt will be displayed that reads "**Exit without saving?**". Click **Yes** to exit without saving the changes or **No** to return to the Wizard to continue with the setup.

THE REMOTE CONTROL

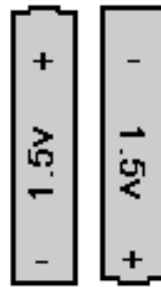
Using the Remote Control

Battery Installation

The Creative Digital VCR remote control requires two AAA 1.5-volt batteries to operate.

To install batteries:

1. Open the hatch on the rear of the remote control by pulling downward.
2. Insert two AAA batteries, making sure to align the batteries according to the +/- polarity markings shown on the inside of the remote control case.
3. Replace the battery hatch by sliding it into position until it clicks.



Battery Polarity

Your remote control is now ready to use.

The Software Remote Control

In addition to the hardware remote control, there is an on-screen software version of the remote control. All functions described below for the hardware remote control apply to the software version. Using the mouse to press any of the virtual buttons is equal to pressing the same button on the hardware remote control.

Open the Software Remote

To open the software remote control, use the **Alt+Tab** key combination to rotate through the available open windows until you come to **Remote Control**. You can switch back to the main application using the Alt+Tab key combination again.

When viewing TV in a window, the software remote can be recalled by clicking the **Digital VCR Remote** button in the Task Bar.

Reposition the Software Remote

To reposition the software remote control, click with the left mouse button in any of the solid areas of the remote. While still holding the mouse button down, drag the remote to the desired location and then release the mouse button.

Minimize

To minimize the software remote, click the box in the upper right corner. It will be minimized and available from the Task Bar.



NOTE: Some Digital VCR commands can also be performed by pressing specific keys on your PC keyboard. A table of Key Commands appears on page 99.



Click here to minimize the software remote control.

The Remote Control Buttons

This section details the function of each of the remote control's buttons.

Power On/Menu

The red **POWER ON/MENU** button is used to open the Digital VCR application when it is in Standby mode, and to return it to Standby mode when it is running live. More information about Standby mode is available on page 83.



Once the Digital VCR application is running, the red **POWER ON/MENU** button is used to open the Main Menu.

The **POWER ON/MENU** button is also used to place the application into Standby mode. To do this, press and hold the **POWER ON/MENU** button for about four seconds.

In the Main Menu, selecting **Standby** from the list will also place the application in Standby mode. There is no video display in this mode; only the event scheduler is running. The application will wake up automatically to perform a scheduled recording. However, the recording will take place in the background without displaying any video.



NOTE: When using the on-screen remote you can also click the 'minimize' box to hide the remote control. It can be recalled by clicking the Digital VCR: Remote Control button that was placed in the Task Bar when the remote was minimized.

Click to open



Guide



Pressing the **GUIDE** button will open the channel setup page. Here you can manage your channel lineup and assign one of three states to each channel – Hidden, Active, or Favorite. Additional information about channel setup appears in the Main Menu section. (To return to the live TV signal, press the **BACK** button.)

Live TV



To view the live television signal present on the currently selected channel, press the **LIVE TV** button.

Back



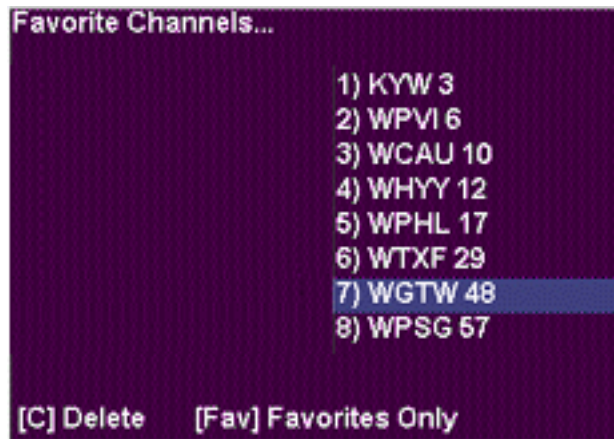
Pressing the **BACK** button while watching a live TV signal will take you back to the previous selected channel. Pressing **BACK** again returns you to the current channel selection.

Favorites (Favs)



The **FAVORITES** button (abbreviated as “**FAVS**”) gives you access to a customizable subset of the channels available on your TV service.

The Favorites button toggles between two modes, **Favorites** and **All Channels**. In Favorites mode, only the channels in the Favorites list are selected when you press the Channel Up/Down arrows on the remote. On screen you'll see the channel name along with a “Favorite” prefix. Up to twelve Favorite channels can be added to your list.



The Favorites information screen appears when you press the **FAVS** button on the remote control while watching live TV. This window gives you access to the Favorites utility functions, such as Add and Delete. The Add function is assigned to the **A** button; the Delete function is assigned to the **C** button.

Adding a Channel to the Favorites List

To add a channel to the Favorites list:

1. Start in Live TV mode (press the **LIVE TV** button on the remote).
2. Select the channel to be added to the list with the up/down arrows or by direct entry on the remote's keypad.
3. Press the **FAVORITES (FAVS)** button on the remote control.
4. The Favorites screen appears, listing the current channels assigned as Favorites.
5. Press the **A** button. Your new channel selection is added to the Favorites list.
6. The Favorites list is updated.
7. Press the **BACK** button on the remote to return to the live TV broadcast.

Deleting a Channel from the Favorites List

To remove a channel from the Favorites list:

1. Press the **FAVORITES (FAVS)** button on the remote control.
2. The Favorites screen appears, listing the current channels assigned as Favorites.
3. Scroll with the up/down arrows to select the channel to be deleted.
4. Press the **C** button. The selected channel is removed from the Favorites list.
5. The Favorites list is updated to reflect the changes.
6. Press the **BACK** button on the remote to return to the live TV broadcast.

You can also manage your Favorites from the Channel Setup page. This is available from the Options section of the Main Menu. See “Channel Setup” on page 80.

Menu



Pressing the **MENU** button calls up the Main Menu display.

Enter



The **ENTER** button is used to confirm selections in the Main Menu, recording setup windows, etc. It can also be used to start playback of recorded files in your video library.

While watching live TV, pressing **ENTER** will briefly display the current channel name information.

Up/Down Arrows - as cursors



The Up/Down arrows are used as cursor controls to move between fields when viewing the Main Menu, or when setting up recording preferences. When live TV or a prerecorded show are paused, the up/down arrows can be used to select a Thumbnail.

Channel Up/Down Arrows



Pressing a Channel Up/Down arrow while viewing live TV will select the next channel in your list of available channels. Pressing a Channel Up/Down arrow while a prerecorded program is playing will pause the recorded show and switch to the live TV signal.

Left/Right Arrows - as cursors



When viewing the Main Menu pages, or other editable fields, the Left/Right arrows move the cursor between fields. In a list, the arrows function as page up and page down buttons. When a live TV program or a prerecorded show is paused, the left/right arrows can be used to select a Thumbnail.

Volume Up/Down Arrows



The Left/Right arrows can also control volume. The Volume Up/Down arrows can be used whenever a live TV or recorded program is playing. Pressing the arrows will change the playback volume in 5% increments. The current volume setting is displayed on screen when you press either volume arrow button.

Numeric keys



The numeric keys can be used for:

- Direct channel selection— up to three digits can be entered. Press the **ENTER** button to complete the selection.
- Selecting Fast Forward and Rewind amounts— enter a value (in minutes), followed by pressing the **REW** or **FF** button.
- Direct Location— enter a number in minutes followed by pressing the **PLAY** button to jump to that exact location with a prerecorded or time-shifted program.

Replay



Pressing the **REPLAY** button will cause the current playback position to rewind ten seconds; playback continues automatically from this point. This function works for both recorded programs and live TV broadcasts. You'll never miss another important line in a movie or a great play in a sporting event again!

To jump additional ten-second intervals, press the **REPLAY** button repeatedly. Each press will move backward an additional ten seconds.

Skip



The **SKIP** button has multiple uses:

- When watching a prerecorded program, pressing **SKIP** will cause playback to jump forward in thirty-second intervals.
- After rewinding or using the **REPLAY** button while watching a live TV program, you can jump forward thirty seconds toward the current time by pressing the **SKIP** button.

Additional presses of the **SKIP** button will move forward in thirty-second increments.

Rewind (REW)



Pressing the **REW** button on the remote control will cause the program currently being viewed to rewind; audio output is muted. Four rewind rates are available— 3x, 15x, 60x, and 300x. Pressing **REW** repeatedly will increase the rate with each press of the button. The current rewind rate is displayed on screen.

To rewind by a specific amount of time, you can use the numeric keys to designate a length. For example, typing “12” followed by a press of the **REW** button will rewind the current program by twelve minutes and begin playback from that point.



NOTE: When viewing Live TV, the maximum amount of time available for rewinding is controlled by the Time Shift amount. This option is set originally in the Storage Options area of the Setup Wizard. The setting can also be changed from Storage page (part of the Options menu).

Fast Forward (FF)



When watching a recorded program, pressing **FF** on the remote control will cause the program to advance; audio output is muted during this operation. Four fast forward rates are available— 3x, 15x, 60x, and 300x. Pressing **FF** repeatedly will increase speed with each button press. The current rate is displayed on screen.

You can use the numeric keys to advance a program you are watching by a specific amount. For example, typing “15” followed by a press of the **FF** button will move playback of the current program to the point fifteen minutes ahead of the current location. Playback will automatically continue from this point. For larger numbers, you can enter them in exact minutes (up to 99 minutes), or hours and minutes (e.g. enter 7, 5, followed by the **FF** or 1, 1, 5, followed by the **FF** button to jump one hour and fifteen minutes).



NOTE: When viewing Live TV, you cannot use the Fast Forward function unless you have already rewound the current program. The Fast Forward function allows you to move within the Time Shift buffer only.

Slow Motion Play

You can watch video in slow motion—either forward or in reverse—by using a combination of the **PAUSE** button and the Forward (**FF**) or Rewind (**REW**) buttons. Multiple rates are available, accessible by pressing the desired Forward (**FF**) or Rewind (**REW**) buttons repeatedly. An on-screen display will indicate the current speed. Three slow motion rates are available (indicated as 1/8x, 1/4x, and 1/2x).

To watch slow motion video:

1. Begin playback of a recorded program or switch to live TV.
2. Press the **PAUSE** button.
3. While paused, press either the Forward (**FF**) or Rewind (**REW**) buttons.
4. Video will start slow motion playback at the first rate, 1/8x.
5. To increase the slow motion playback rate, press the Forward (**FF**) or Rewind (**REW**) buttons.



NOTE: After pressing the Forward (**FF**) or Rewind (**REW**) buttons the third time to use the 1/2x rate, the next press of the Forward (**FF**) or Rewind (**REW**) button will return you to standard fast forward or reverse behavior. To return to slow motion playback, press the **PAUSE** button again, followed by either the Forward or Rewind button.

Play

The **PLAY** button is used to start playback of a selected prerecorded program, or resume playback after the **PAUSE** button has been pressed.



The **PLAY** button is also used to perform direct locate functions. For example, pressing the number keys **4** and then **5**, followed by the **PLAY** button will locate to exactly 45 minutes into your recorded program. For larger numbers, you can enter them in exact minutes or hours and minutes (e.g. enter **7**, **5**, followed by the **PLAY** button or **1**, **1**, **5**, followed by the **PLAY** button to jump one hour and fifteen minutes).

Pause



To stop the playback of the current live TV program temporarily, press the **PAUSE** button. When a live program is paused, the Digital VCR application will automatically begin creating Thumbnails for you at regular intervals, as a guide to what has happened in the program since it was paused. Pressing the **B** button will display thumbnails. Pressing the **PLAY** button will restart playback.

Frame Advance

Pressing the **PAUSE** button once stops playback. Pressing the **PAUSE** button a second time will advance the picture by single frames. You can press the **PAUSE** button repeatedly to advance a frame at a time, or hold it down to advance multiple frames.

Stop



Press **STOP** to cancel playback of a prerecorded program. The picture will freeze at the last frame played. No Thumbnails are created. Press the **B** button to start the Thumbnails, or press **PLAY** to continue watching the program.

Pressing **STOP** while watching a live TV broadcast has an effect similar to pressing the **PAUSE** button— playback stops temporarily, but no Thumbnails are created for you.

Record On/Off



You can immediately start recording the program you are watching by pressing the **Record On/Off** button. Pressing the **left** or **right** arrows will increase or decrease the recording end time in 5 minute increments. Pressing the **Record** button will increase the recording end time in 30 minute increments. When the maximum recording end time is reached, it will cycle back to the original end time. Pressing the **Stop** button while the record screen is visible will terminate the recording. The record screen will revert to the live TV image after 5 seconds.

Info



While viewing Live TV, press to display current time and date. When playing a recorded program, press to display the program title and description.

Device

This feature is not implemented in this version of the software.

Mute



To silence the audio of the current program temporarily, press the **MUTE** button. Pressing **MUTE** again will restore audio playback. Your current volume setting is displayed on screen briefly as a reminder.



NOTE: Using the **MUTE** button will not affect the audio portion of a program you are recording.

Bookmark



Bookmarks are a set of custom markers that can be used to store locations within a recorded file. Pressing the **BOOKMARK** button will open a window where you can select, add, name, and delete Bookmarks. Each Bookmark is shown with a picture from the show, a time reference, and its text description. See “Bookmarks” on page 52.

Find

Press to find broadcast channels in Setup.

A B C Buttons

The **A**, **B**, and **C** buttons provide navigation and access to utility functions. The exact roles of the buttons change, depending on which Digital VCR software page you are viewing.



NOTE: When viewing a live or prerecorded show, you can see an on-screen reminder of the functions assigned to these buttons by pressing the **INFO** button on the remote control.

WATCHING LIVE TV

Overview

Now that you have the hardware and software installed, it's time to have some fun. This section explains the basics—launching the application, navigating with the remote control, etc.

Launch the Digital VCR Application

To start the Digital VCR software, you can:

- Select **Digital VCR** from the Start Menu (Programs > Creative > VB Digital VCR [folder] > VB Digital VCR)
- Double-click the Digital VCR application from within the Digital VCR directory.
- Right-click on the icon in the system tray of the Task Bar on the desktop and choose Wake Up.
- Press the **POWER ON** button on the Digital VCR remote control (assuming that the Digital VCR is in Standby mode and its icon appears in the Task Bar).
- Double-click a shortcut to Digital VCR placed on the desktop.



For new installations, if you have not yet selected any TV channels, the software will open the Channel Setup page by default the first time you launch Digital VCR. Here you can have Digital VCR automatically scan for occupied channels or manually select and name the channels you want to use while watching live TV. For complete information about the Channel Setup page, “Channel Setup” on page 80.

After TV channels have been assigned, when the application launches you'll be in Live TV mode. The system defaults to selecting the lowest-numbered available channel, as specified during channel setup.



NOTE: Before launching the Digital VCR application, be sure to exit any applications that require the use of your audio card. Only one application can play audio at a time on most systems.

Basic Navigation

Channel Changes - with the up/down arrows

All Channels



Now that you're watching TV, you'll probably want to do some channel surfing. If you've ever used a TV remote before, you already know what to do; it's that simple.

The Remote Control has Channel Up/Down arrows in the upper section. These arrows do double duty as cursor arrows, as you'll see later. To select a new channel, simply press one of the up/down arrows. The channel will change to the next available channel, as set on the Channel Setup page.



NOTE: If you change your mind about which channels you want to have available, or if you add a channel to your cable/satellite TV service subscription, you can always adjust the preference settings in the Channel Setup window.

See "Channel Setup" on page 80.

Favorite Channels

The **FAVORITES** button (**Favs**) gives you access a customizable subset of all the channels available on your TV service. In Favorites mode, you can use the up/down arrows to move through the list of selected Favorite channels, skipping over other channels. This is especially useful if you have a large selection of available channels, as with cable or satellite service. Favorites mode can be toggled on and off as needed.

You can manage your Favorite channels in the Favorites window. See "Favorites (Favs)" on page 37.

Channel Changes - direct dial

To jump to a specific channel without passing through all the channels in between, you can directly enter a channel number.



To do this, you'll use a combination of the numeric keys and the **ENTER** button. Here are some examples: To go to Channel 6, press the **6** button, followed by the **ENTER** button. You do not need to type in any leading zeros. To jump to Channel 173, press the number buttons **1**, **7**, and **3** followed by the **ENTER** button.



SHORTCUT: You can also initiate a channel change using the numeric keypad without pressing the **ENTER** button. The channel change will happen automatically after a few seconds have passed following your last numeric entry. You can press **1**, **2**, and then just wait; you will be taken to Channel 12 in a few moments.

The Back Button



After you have made at least one channel change, you can use the **BACK** button to toggle between your current channel select and the one that preceded it.

The **BACK** button is also used to exit menus and other option pages; it will return you to the last TV channel (or recorded program) you were watching.

Volume Control

To adjust the playback volume, use the left/right arrows in the cursor section of the remote control. Pressing these buttons will increase or decrease the volume in 5% increments. The screen will display the current volume setting as soon as you press one of the volume arrow buttons. The range is 0% to 100%. Volume settings are saved when you quit the Digital VCR application.



Volume Control - the Mute Button



To temporarily mute the audio portion of a program, you can press the **MUTE** button located in the lower portion of the remote control. The word "Mute" will be displayed on screen temporarily. To return to normal audio playback, press the **MUTE** button again. Your current volume setting will be displayed briefly as a reference.



NOTE: Using the **MUTE** button does not affect the audio portion of a recording in progress.

TV IN A WINDOW

Overview

To watch live or recorded programs on the Digital VCR at less than fullscreen size, there are several display options available. Watching video in windowed mode may be useful when you want to perform other tasks on your PC and still have the Digital VCR running.

The screen size settings can be found in the Options section of the Main Menu. Open the Main Menu by pressing the **MENU** button on the remote control or by right-clicking on the live TV picture with your mouse. See “Display Size” on page 79.

When watching TV in a window, you can still use the software remote, if needed. Recall it by pressing the **Digital VCR Remote** button in the Task Bar.

To Change the Screen Size

Selecting an alternate screen size is easy.

Follow these steps to choose a different screen size:



1. Open the Main Menu by pressing the **MENU** button on the remote control or by right-clicking the live TV picture.
2. In the Main Menu, select **Options**.
3. Press **ENTER** to open the Options page.
4. In the Options page, scroll and select **Display Size**.
5. Press **ENTER**.
6. The Display Size list opens.
7. Select a new display size by scrolling to highlight the desired new size.
8. Press **ENTER**.
9. The screen is resized immediately.



The video picture is displayed in a standard Windows OS desktop layout complete with a title bar, menu, and close/resize buttons. The available optional screen sizes are:

- ☐ Fullscreen
- ☐ 640 x 480
- ☐ 320 x 240
- ☐ 160 x 120



SHORTCUT: To toggle between the full-size display and the window display, double-click the live TV picture.

To Position the Video Window

The video window can be positioned at any convenient location on the PC desktop.

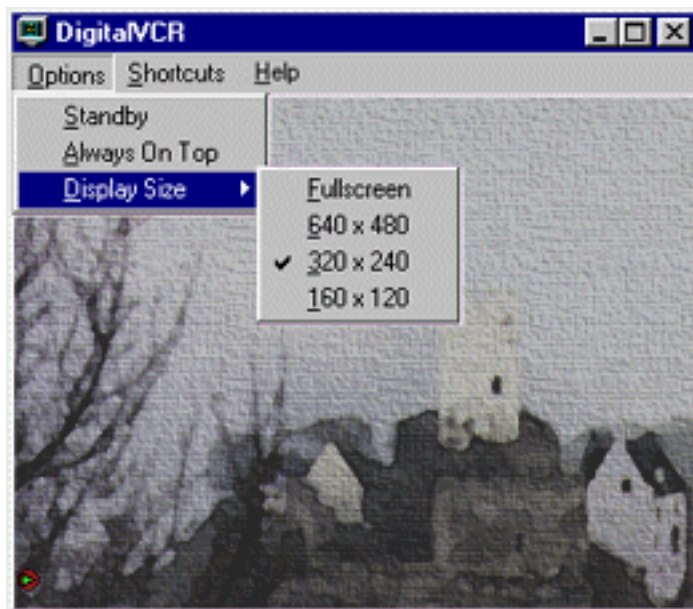
To move the window:

1. Click on the title bar to select the window.
2. While still holding the mouse button down, drag the window to the new location.
3. Release the mouse button.

The desktop location of the window will be saved when you place the Digital VCR in standby or after the application has been quit and restarted.

The Options Menu in the Windowed Display

When viewing TV in a window, there are additional shortcuts and options available in the menu bar of the window. These menus function in the same manner as menus in most Windows applications; use the mouse to select. To open the Options menu from the keyboard, use the keyboard shortcut **Alt+O**. Each entry in the menu has an underlined letter that is used to select the shortcut. Once the menu is open, simply type the underlined letter to choose the option.



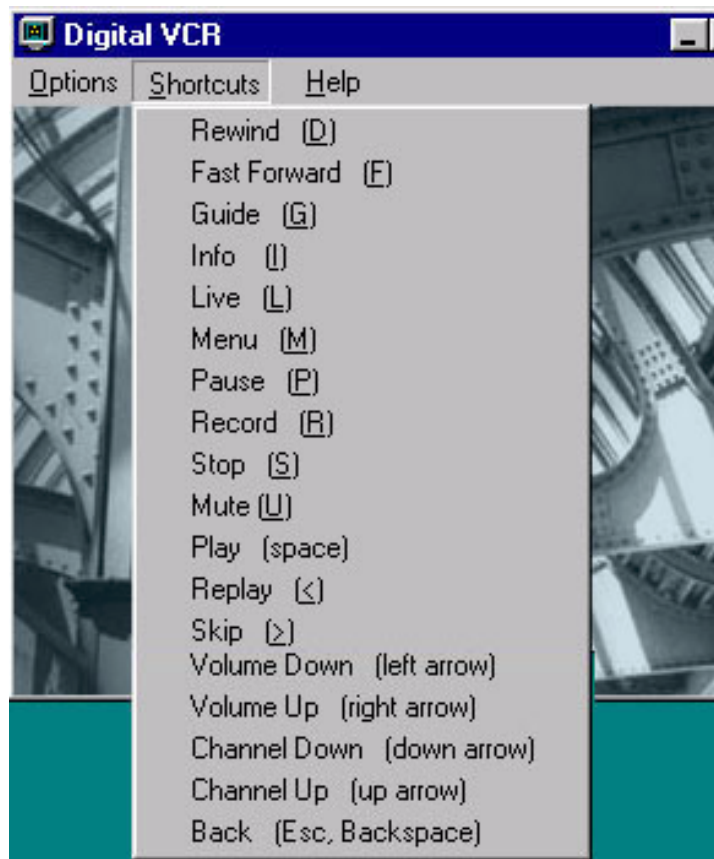
The Options menu contains:

- **Standby** - Select this to place the application into Standby mode. When you exit Standby mode to watch TV again, the picture size will be the same as when you were last viewing live TV.
- **Always On Top** - Use this when using other applications to force the window to remain visible as you switch applications. To use this option, scroll down to select it; a check mark appears next to the "Always On Top" text when it is in use.
- **Display Size >** - This entry contains a submenu where you can select alternate screen sizes. Simply scroll with the mouse to choose a new setting. The current setting is shown with a check mark.

The Shortcuts List

The second menu in the TV window contains the Shortcuts list. This list shows an overview of the basic commands. To open the Shortcuts menu from the PC keyboard, use the **Alt+S** key

combination. Select any item in the menu by typing the underlined letter for the entry you wish to select.



The Help Menu

When Digital VCR is in windowed mode, a Help menu containing two items is available. You can open the User's Guide and view the version number of the Digital VCR application. The Help menu can be opened by using the key combination **Alt+H**.

Version Information

The version number of the Digital VCR software may be useful when you need customer service assistance, or when a new version of the application is released.

To get the version number of the Digital VCR application running on your computer, click the **About...** item in the Help menu. When clicked, a new window will open on top of the existing Digital VCR window. In this new window you will find the version number of the software you are currently using.

To close the version information window, press the **OK** button when finished.



NOTE: Displaying the version information does not interrupt recordings in progress.

ADVANCED NAVIGATION

Overview

In addition to the standard navigation described above, the Digital VCR gives you the ability to rewind, pause, and replay live TV signals.

The features described in this section require Time Shifting to be enabled (See "Time Shifting" on page 81).

Replay Live TV

Digital VCR has a dedicated button that guarantees you'll never miss an important line of dialog, or a great play while watching a sporting event. The **REPLAY** button instantly rewinds the current live program ten seconds and begins playback from there.



You can rewind additional ten-second increments by pressing the **REPLAY** button repeatedly. (For example, four presses of this button will move you back 40 seconds.)

To jump back to current time, you can press either the **LIVE TV** button or the **SKIP** button. (The **SKIP** button advances in thirty-second intervals. Depending on how far backward you have moved, it may take multiple presses of the **SKIP** button to return to real time.)

Rewind Live TV

At any time while watching a live TV program, you can also rewind the current show to replay a section. The exact amount of time available for rewinding is determined by these factors:

- The size of the Time Shift buffer
- How long your Digital VCR system has been on. (Even with a thirty-minute Time Shift buffer, if your PC and Digital VCR have only been powered up for ten minutes, only ten minutes of recorded programming is available for rewinding.)

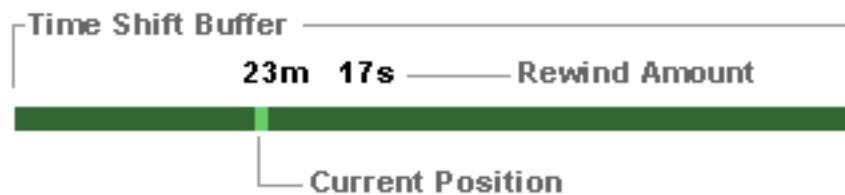


There are four rewind rates available:

- 3x
- 15x
- 60x
- 300x

Pressing the **REWIND** button repeatedly will cycle through the available rewind rates. When you get to a section of the program that you want to watch, hit the **PLAY** button on the remote.

While rewinding, the current rewind rate and time location will be shown on screen. A graphic will indicate how far into the Time Shift buffer you have moved (see diagram, below). As mentioned earlier, the original Time Shift amount is set in the Setup Wizard. Changes to the Time Shift amount can be made from the Storage page, found in the Options menu. See "Storage Configuration" on page 74.



To return to watching the live program at the current time, simply press the **LIVE TV** button.

Rewind - Direct Entry

1 7

To rewind by a specific amount, you can enter numbers on the remote control followed by a press of the **REWIND** button. For example, to rewind exactly 17 minutes from the current play location press **1, 7**, and then **REWIND**. Playback will jump to the new location and start immediately.

The Fast Forward (FF) Function & Live TV

After you have rewound a section of the current live program to replay, you can also use the **FAST FORWARD (FF)** button to navigate.

There are four fast forward rates available:

- ❑ 3x
- ❑ 15x
- ❑ 60x
- ❑ 300x



Pressing the **FF** button repeatedly will cycle through the available fast forward rates. When you get to a section of the program that you want to watch, simply hit the **PLAY** button on the remote to start playback.

While using the fast forward function, the current rate and time location with the current program will be shown on screen.

To jump back to current-time in the live program, just press the **LIVE TV** button.

Jump Forward - Direct Entry

To jump ahead by an exact amount, you can enter numbers on the remote control followed by a press of the **FAST FORWARD (FF)** button. For example, to move ahead exactly 23 minutes from the current play location press **2, 3**, and then **FAST FORWARD (FF)**. Playback will jump to the new location and start immediately.



NOTE: This function only works if you are playing back a recorded program, or if you have rewound a live broadcast.

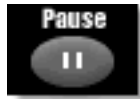
Start From the Beginning

0

To jump to the beginning of a recorded program, press the **0** (zero) button followed by the **PLAY** button.

Slow Motion Play

You can watch video in slow motion— either forward or reverse— by using a combination of the **PAUSE** button and the **FORWARD** or **REWIND** buttons. Multiple rates are available, accessible by pressing the desired Forward (**FF**) or Rewind (**REW**) buttons repeatedly. An on-screen display will indicate the current speed. Three slow motion rates are available (indicated as 1/8x, 1/4x, and 1/2x).



To watch slow motion video:

1. Begin playback of a recorded program or switch to live TV.
2. Press the **PAUSE** button.
3. While paused press either the Forward (**FF**) or Rewind (**REW**) buttons.
4. Video will start slow motion playback at the first rate, 1/8x.
5. To increase the slow motion playback rate, press the Forward (**FF**) or Rewind (**REW**) buttons.



NOTE: After pressing the Forward (**FF**) or Rewind (**REW**) buttons the third time to use the 1/2x rate, the next press of the Forward or Rewind button will return you to regular fast forward or reverse behavior. To return to slow motion playback, press the **PAUSE** button again, followed by either Forward or Rewind.

Pausing Live TV

What do you do when the phone rings, miss part of your favorite show? No, not with Time Shifting. Just pause the program and return to it when you are ready. Time Shifting caches live TV to your hard drive. When Time Shifting is enabled, live TV is always recorded, allowing you to pause Live TV, and then continue without missing your program. When Time Shifting is disabled, Live TV will be paused, but broadcast content will be lost during the pause.

When you press the **Pause** button, Digital VCR will prompt you to turn on Time Shifting if it is not already enabled. Once enabled, pressing the **Pause** button will freeze the display of your program, while continuing to record the program to the hard drive. While paused, Digital VCR will also begin to create program Thumbnails. (See below for more information.) To continue playback of your program, press the **Play** button.

At this point your playback is delayed from the current real-time broadcast of the show. You have the option now to watch the show from here to the end or to jump forward to catch up to real time.

You can jump forward by:

- ❑ Pressing the Fast Forward (**FF**) button
- ❑ Pressing the **SKIP** button to move forward in thirty-second intervals or skip over commercials. (Digital VCR looks for the end of a group of commercials. If an end cannot be found, a default Skip of thirty seconds is used.)
- ❑ Pressing the **LIVE TV** button to return to real time

Watching a Prerecorded Show During Commercials

While watching a live TV program you can switch to a prerecorded show during commercials or other sections of a show you don't want to watch. To do this you have to select a prerecorded show from your library first. Then, while watching the live TV signal, pressing the **PLAY** button will switch to the prerecorded program.

Follow these steps:



1. From the Main Menu, press **Recorded Shows**.
2. Choose a prerecorded show from your library by selecting it from the list.
3. Press **PLAY** to start playback of the show.
4. Now you can switch to the live TV signal. Press the **LIVE TV** Button.
5. When you reach a point where you don't want to watch the live TV show, press **PLAY**; the prerecorded show starts playing. As long as you have Time Shifting enabled, the live TV show is still available to be watched.
6. To jump back to the live show, press the **LIVE TV** button. The prerecorded show is paused in the background.

You can switch back and forth as often as you like. With Time Shifting enabled, you can rewind the live TV show in case you miss something while watching the prerecorded program.

Program Thumbnails

Thumbnails are graphic icons created at regular intervals as markers, similar to a bookmark in a browser. They are created automatically when you pause a live TV broadcast. They show you what has been happening since you paused the program that you were watching.

Thumbnails are also available for programs recorded to disk. They serve as an easy navigational aid. To view the Thumbnails for a recorded program, simply press the **PAUSE** button. The screen will fill with Thumbnail icons, with the first one representing the point at which you paused the program. Subsequent icons represent portions of the show that are still unwatched. The total length of the recorded program determines the spacing of the Thumbnails.

The screen can hold up to sixty-four Thumbnails.

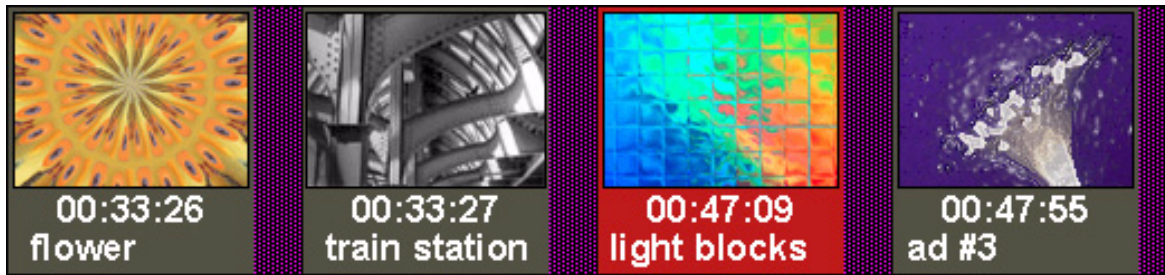
To use the Thumbnails as a navigational aid:

1. Use the Left/Right arrows to move within a row, or
2. Use the Up/Down arrows to change columns.
3. Press **ENTER** to select a playback start point.

If you pause playback again, a new set of Thumbnails will begin to be generated.

Bookmarks

Bookmarks are a set of custom markers that can be used to store specific locations within a recorded file. Unlike the Thumbnails described above, Bookmarks are created by the user at any time location. Bookmarks are stored with the program. Each Bookmark is shown with a picture icon from the show, a time reference, and a description. Bookmarks can be added, deleted, named, and renamed from this window. Bookmarks are automatically sorted in chronological order as they are created.



Adding a Bookmark

To add a Bookmark:



1. Select a recorded program that you want to add Bookmarks to.
2. Begin playback of the recording.
3. At a point where you want to have a Bookmark, press the **BOOKMARK** button.
4. The Bookmarks window will open.
5. Press the **A** button to add a new Bookmark.
6. Enter a description or name for the new Bookmark.
7. Hit **ENTER** when finished typing.
8. Hit **ENTER** or the **BOOKMARK** button to return to the program.

You can enter a full line of text in the Bookmark description field, but only the first few words will be displayed in the Bookmark graphic. The full contents of the text can be read in the information box at the top of the window when you select the Bookmark.

You can add as many Bookmarks as your needs require. If there are more Bookmarks than will fit on one screen, scroll bars will appear at the top and/or bottom of the Bookmarks page.

Bookmarks can be added to a live broadcast that is being recorded, if desired.

Navigating with Bookmarks

Once you have created some Bookmarks in a recorded file, they can be used to navigate the file.

To navigate using Bookmarks:

1. Press the **BOOKMARKS** button on the remote to open the Bookmarks window.
2. Any Bookmarks saved with the show will be displayed.
3. Use the left/right arrow buttons to move within a row of Bookmarks to select.
4. Use the up/down arrow buttons to move vertically within a column of Bookmarks.
5. Press **ENTER** to select the Bookmark and begin playback from its stored time location.

Renaming a Bookmark

You can change the name of a Bookmark if necessary, or add a name if no text was entered when the Bookmark was originally created.

To change the name of a Bookmark:

1. Select a recorded program that you have added Bookmarks to.
2. Press the **BOOKMARKS** button to open the Bookmarks window.
3. Select the Bookmark to be edited by navigating with the arrow buttons.

4. Press the **B** button to enter new Bookmark name.
5. Enter a new description or name for the Bookmark.
6. Hit **ENTER** when finished typing.
7. Hit **ENTER** again to return to the program.

Deleting a Bookmark

Bookmarks that are no longer needed can be removed.

Follow these steps:



1. Select a recorded program that you want to remove Bookmarks from.
2. Press the **BOOKMARK** button.
3. The Bookmarks window will open.
4. Select the Bookmark to be removed by navigating with the arrow buttons to select it.
5. Press the **C** button.
6. A confirmation dialog box will appear.
7. Hit **ENTER** to select Yes and delete the Bookmark.
8. To exit the delete dialog without removing the Bookmark, scroll with the arrow keys to **No** and then press the **ENTER** key.
9. Press the **BACK** button to exit the Bookmarks window.



SHORTCUT: To quickly add a new Bookmark using the default settings, just double-click the **BOOKMARK** button.

RECORDING A PROGRAM

Overview

By harnessing the power of your personal computer, the Digital VCR eliminates the hassle associated with recording programs and keeping track of your video library. The recording setup is as simple as pressing one button.

Recording Quality Settings

There are four preset recording modes available. These modes are similar to the familiar tape-based VCR recording modes, and the concept behind them is similar. They are useful in determining the balance of hard disk space used versus the actual quality of the recording.

The four available preset recording quality settings are:

- ❑ Best (SP)
- ❑ Better (LP)
- ❑ Good (EP)
- ❑ Economy (XP)

One of these recording quality settings was selected as the default when the Setup Wizard was run initially. This setting will be used for all recordings unless you change it. Changes can be made on a show-by-show basis in the record setup dialog when you schedule a recording. Or, you can select a different preset recording quality setting to be used as the default. This can be done on the Recording Options page, found in the Options menu. See *“Recording Settings” on page 76*.

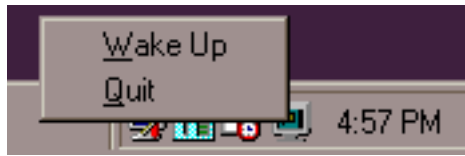
In addition to the four preset quality settings, there is a user-defined Custom recording quality setting. This allows you set up video and audio recording parameters to suit your needs.

For additional information about the Custom recording settings, see *“The Custom Recording Quality Settings” on page 77*.

Operating Modes

The default installation sets up the Digital VCR as a service on your PC, placing an icon in the system tray of your Task Bar. This means that you have fast and easy access to your Digital VCR features with just one press of the **POWER ON** button on the remote control. The software is actually running in Standby mode when you first start your PC.

You can also opt to right-click on the **Digital VCR** icon in the system tray. A pop-up menu will appear giving you two options, Wake Up and Quit. Choosing **Wake Up** is the same as pressing the **POWER ON** button on the remote control. Selecting **Quit** will exit the Digital VCR application and remove the icon from the system tray.



The Digital VCR can be left running in Standby mode without missing a recording you've scheduled. Scheduled recording operations do not require that the Digital VCR be running live or displaying the live TV signal in order to record. The scheduler will wake the application just before the start of the recording process.

Recording With Digital VCR

Live TV While Recording

When a recording is in progress, you will not be able to change the live TV channel. An error message will appear on screen as a reminder if a channel change is requested. The error message will not interrupt the recording process.

However, while recording, Digital VCR can still play back prerecorded files from your video library. A show that is being recorded can be cancelled if desired.

Programming a Show to be Recorded

When you install Digital VCR, space is pre-allocated on your hard drive for recording. You can think of this space as a "virtual tape". The disk space is set aside for use by Digital VCR. When a show is added to the schedule to be recorded, two things happen:

- Your hard drive free space allocated to Digital VCR is checked to determine that there is sufficient space to store the selection.
- If available, this space is then reserved until the recording takes place.

As you make additional recording selections, the amount of available empty hard disk space on your virtual tape is decreased. If the hard disk cannot store the program you have selected for recording, a warning message will appear in the recording setup dialog. You can then choose to:

- Cancel the recording
- Try other recording parameters (for example, Economy (XP) recording mode takes less disk space than Best (SP) mode)
- Remove previously recorded files from the hard disk to make more space available



Recording Setup

To program a show to be recorded:

1. Press the Menu button.
2. Select Scheduler.
3. Select Schedule Recording.
4. The record setup screen opens where you can fine-tune the settings, if desired.

The settings available to change are:

- Channel
- Day and Date
- **From** - the program start time when recording will begin
- **To** - the point at which recording will end
- **Quality** - the recording quality to be used

5. To make a change with the remote control, use the up/down arrows to scroll to the item you want to alter.
6. Use the left/right arrows to change the current value.

Using the PC mouse, click on the left/right arrows next to any parameter to change it. The PC arrow keys can also be used for navigation and editing; they function in the same manner as the remote control arrow keys.

Channel	◀▶ 12 PBS
Date	◀▶ Sat Dec 2 2000
From	◀▶ 5:00PM
To	◀▶ 5:30PM
Quality	◀▶ Better (LP)

 [Click here](#)

7. Once the recording settings are fine tuned to your satisfaction, scroll down to **Record Once**.
8. Press **ENTER**.
9. The Title and Description page will open. Here you have the option of giving your recording a title and adding a brief description.
10. Enter text into the Title and Description fields as needed.
11. Press **ENTER** to save the changes.

After you press the **ENTER** button, the Recording Setup screen is cleared. Your show is now scheduled to be recorded.

The text entered into the Title and Description fields can be changed later from the Recorded Shows page (part of the Main Menu). See *"Show Information"* on page 71.

Alternate Data Entry Methods

Text entry for channel numbers and times can also be input from the PC keyboard using the number keys or numeric keypad. When entering times using this method, you will have the option of selecting a time as either AM or PM. After entering a time, press an **A** for AM, or a **B** for PM.

To exit the record dialog without scheduling the record operation, press the **BACK** button. You will return to the previous page. Optionally, you can scroll down to **Cancel recording** and then press **ENTER**.

Scheduled Recordings - Using Standby Mode

Once a show is scheduled to be recorded, you have the option of placing the Digital VCR into Standby mode. The live TV picture does not have to be on screen in order for recording to take place. The recording will be completed in the background, unattended. To go into Standby mode, use one of these methods:

- From the Task Bar, select the **Digital VCR** icon by right-clicking on it; then select **Standby** from the pop-up menu.
- From the Digital VCR Main Menu, select **Standby** from the list.
- If you are viewing TV in a window, select the **Standby** item in the Options menu of the TV window with the mouse.
- If you are viewing TV in a window, use the key combination **Alt+O** to open the Options menu followed by typing letter "S" to access the Standby item in the menu. (The Digital VCR window must be the front window in order for keyboard shortcuts to work.)
- Press and hold the **POWER ON** button on the Remote Control for about five seconds.

□



Recording the Show You're Watching Right Now



You can immediately start recording the program you are watching by pressing the **Record On/Off** button. Pressing the **left** or **right** arrows will increase or decrease the recording end time in 5 minute increments. Pressing the **Record** button will increase the recording end time in 30 minute increments. When the maximum recording end time is reached, it will cycle back to the original end time. Pressing the **Stop** button while the record screen is visible will terminate the recording. The record screen will revert to the live TV image after 5 seconds.

Thumbnails in a Recorded Program

You can use the Thumbnails as a navigator in the same manner as used for a paused live TV program. The Thumbnails are displayed any time you pause playback of a prerecorded show. To navigate the rows and columns of Thumbnails, use the arrow keys. The selected Thumbnail will be highlighted. To jump to the selected point in the program, press the **PLAY** button.

For additional information about Thumbnails, see "Program Thumbnails" on page 52.

GROUP RECORDING

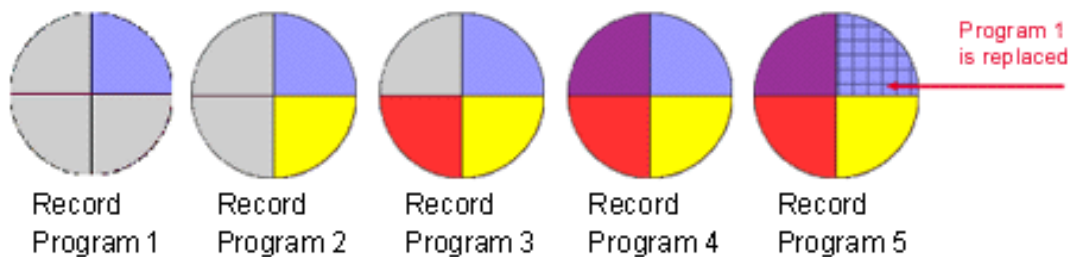
Group Recording Overview

Group recording allows you to set up an automated task to record a set of programs at regular intervals. Shows that fit your recording criteria will be recorded to disk without the need to schedule each recording separately. Shows that are part of a recording Group are of lower priority than standard individually-scheduled recordings. As long as there is unallocated hard disk space available, Group recordings will continue until your disk is filled. Then, once filled, the recording space is reclaimed and reused by eliminating the oldest Group recordings.

As an example, imagine that you want to record episodes of a favorite half-hour comedy program so that you always have a few shows available for viewing. And, for the purpose of this simplified illustration, assume that there is two hours of recording time available on the system's hard disk allocated to Digital VCR (your "virtual tape"). By setting up a two-hour Group recording, up to four episodes of the program would be available. The programs in your Group would be constantly refreshed as other episodes are broadcast.

Here's a simple Group example (see the diagram below):

- ❑ A two-hour Group recording is set up on the Record page.
- ❑ When Program 1 is broadcast, it is saved to disk.
- ❑ Programs 2, 3, and 4 are recorded in the same manner.
- ❑ All four shows are available for viewing.
- ❑ When the fifth program is broadcast, Program 1 is removed.
- ❑ Each additional recording replaces a previously saved Group recording file.



How Group Recording Works

Group recording is slightly more complex than the simple example given above. There are actually two different types of recordings that are possible when using the Digital VCR, a *standard* recording and a recording belonging to a *Group*.

A **standard recording** is defined as one that is:

- scheduled as a one-time recording event in the future
- recorded live in real time, or
- recorded from the external video input.

The hard disk space for the scheduled recording is reserved until the recording takes place, assuring you that you will always get the recording you requested. A standard recording can only be deleted by the user, from the Recorded Shows page. Standard recordings have a higher priority than Group recordings.

A **Group recording** is an automated process that continually reuses some of the available hard disk recording space by eliminating previous Group recordings. However, unlike the standard recording (one that is not part of a Group), this hard disk space is not pre-allocated. Higher priority recordings can reclaim space from a Group recording. Depending on how many other recordings have been scheduled, the actual contents of a recording Group may be less or more than its defined size at any given time.

The recording space for a recording Group is defined in thirty-minute intervals. The recording size selects the approximate maximum size for each Group. To save six half-hour shows, set the total recording size to three hours. To save eight half-hour shows, set the total size to four hours, etc. When setting up multiple Groups, this setting can help manage the Group recording process by choosing the relative sizes for each Group.

When reclaiming space, Digital VCR tries to preserve shows in a Group that you have not had time to watch by eliminating the oldest shows first. When multiple Groups exist, each Group is analyzed and rated separately. Digital VCR tries to retain the relative size of your Groups when possible.

You also have the ability to rate your recording Groups. Giving one Group a higher priority can help manage conflicts in the recording schedule.

Setting Up a Recording Group

Group recordings are set up from the Record dialog. In addition, like all files that have been scheduled for recording, items belonging to a Group can be seen in the Scheduler window.

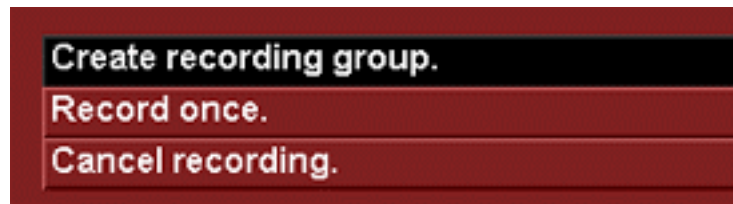
Settings

The settings available for a Group recording include:

- **Recording Interval** - Options include a single day of the week, weekdays only, and daily
- **Recording Quality** - All shows in the Group will use this record quality setting
- **Group Size** - The total time of the recording Group, in thirty-minute intervals
- **Group Name** - A text field where you can add a descriptive title for each Group you create

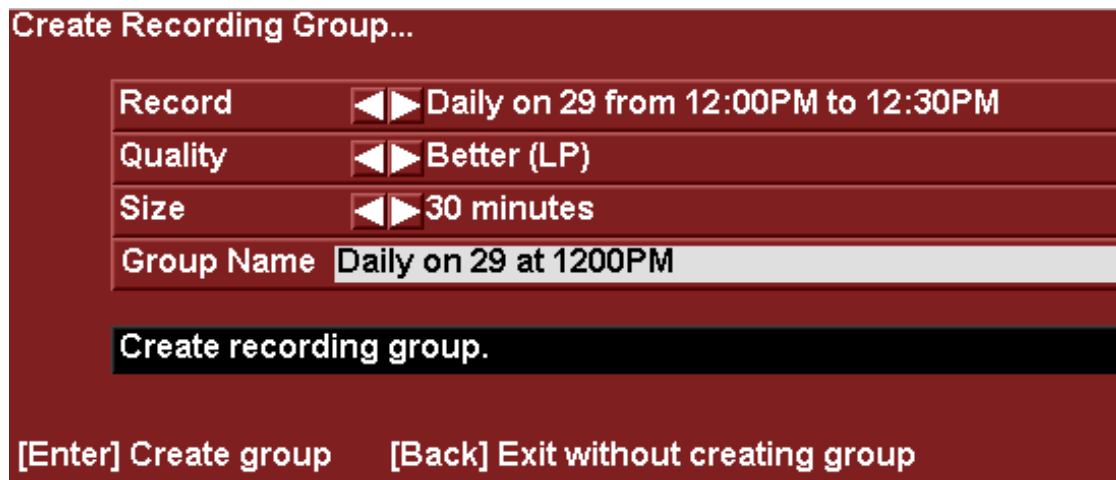
To set up a recording Group:

1. Press the **Menu** button.
2. Select **Scheduler**.
3. Select **Schedule Recording**.
4. The Record dialog opens.
5. Scroll down to **Create Recording Group**.
6. Press the **ENTER** button.



To specify the recording settings for the Group:

1. The recording Group options are displayed.
2. Scroll with the up/down arrows to select any recording parameter you want to change.
3. Use the left/right arrows to change the value. Values can also be selected and/or edited with the PC arrow keys or mouse.



4. Scroll down to **Create Recording Group**
5. Press **ENTER** to create the recording Group.

Group Recording Settings

Each setting in the Group recording dialog box is explained in this section. All settings can be changed with the left/right arrow keys, the PC arrow keys, or the mouse.

Record

This setting lets you select different options relating to the content of your Group. You can make your Group more or less specific by changing this setting.

Recording the Time Slot

You can record a Group based on the day and time. This simply records anything that is broadcast at the selected time. You have the option of recording *daily* (seven days), *weekdays* (Mon-

day through Friday only), or on *one day of the week* (based on your selected show's date and time). The recording length is automatically set to the same size as the program you initially selected.

To record the time slot, regardless of what show is broadcast:

1. Press the **Menu** button.
2. Select **Scheduler**.
3. Select **Schedule Recording**.
4. The Record dialog opens.
5. Scroll down to **Create Recording Group**.
6. Press the **ENTER** button.
7. Highlight the **Record** setting in the **Recording Group** window.
8. Scroll using the left/right arrow buttons.
9. Choose **Daily**, **Weekdays**, or the **day of the week** for the recording.
10. Set the other Group recording options as needed.
11. Type in a name for your new Group in the **Group Name** field.
12. Scroll to **Create Recording Group**.
13. Press the **ENTER** button.

Quality

The Quality setting allows you to select any of the four preset recording quality settings for your Group recording. All shows in the Group are recorded with the same settings. You can also use the Custom record setting.

Size

Each Group can be set to a user-defined size. The size you select determines the approximate number of shows that will be available for you to watch, assuming that there is disk space available. It also helps set the relative size balance when you have multiple recording Groups defined. Digital VCR will try to keep the relative size of all your defined Groups intact.

For example, when recording a half-hour sitcom, using a setting of 90 minutes would allow three shows to be recorded. The size is edited in thirty-minute units.

Once you have your Groups set up you have the option of entering Standby Mode. Recordings will take place in the background.

For more information about Standby, see "Standby" on page 83.

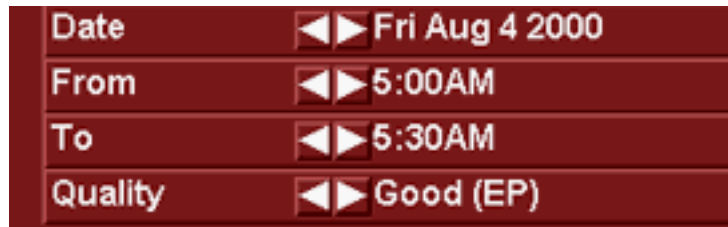
CHANGING THE RECORDING SCHEDULE

Changing the Length of a Recording in Progress

While a program is being recorded, you have the option of changing the recording's end time. For example, you could extend the scheduled recording time of a sports event by 30 minutes if it looks like the game will run longer than expected.

To do this while watching the show that is being recorded:

1. Press the **Menu** button.
2. Select **Scheduler**.
3. Select **Schedule Recording**.
4. The record dialog box opens.
5. Select the **To** field, navigating with the up/down arrows. (This indicates the scheduled recording end time.)
6. Use the left/right arrows to change the end time to the new desired time.
7. Scroll down to **Change Record End Time**.
8. Press **ENTER**.



Stopping a Recording in Progress

While a program is being recorded, you can cancel the recording process. The portion of the show that has already been recorded will appear in the Recorded Shows window, available from the Main Menu.

To cancel a recording while watching the show that is being recorded:

1. Press the red **RECORD ON/OFF** button.
2. Press **Stop**.

Canceling a Scheduled Recording

When a program is scheduled to be recorded at some time in the future, you can remove it from the schedule to cancel the recording process.

From the Scheduler Page

To remove a scheduled recording from the Scheduler page:



1. Press the **MENU** button on the remote control.
2. Select **Scheduler** by scrolling with the up/down arrows.
3. Press **ENTER**.
4. The **Scheduler** dialog box opens.
5. Select the program category that the program you want to cancel belongs to by scrolling with the up/down arrows. Select **Keepers** or one of your **Groups**.
6. Press **ENTER** to open the list of shows.
7. Select the show to be cancelled, scrolling with the up/down arrows.
8. Press the **C** button on the remote control.
9. An "Are you sure?" dialog box will open giving you the opportunity to confirm your choice or cancel.
10. Press **ENTER** again to answer "Yes" and confirm the cancellation.
11. Or, scroll with the left/right arrows to **No** and then press **ENTER** to return to the previous screen.

Canceling a Scheduled Recording Group

To remove just one program from the recording schedule without removing the rest of the Group, follow the instructions given above for deleting a single scheduled show.

Canceling the entire recording Group is done on the Scheduler page.

To do this:

1. Press the **MENU** button on the remote control.
2. Select **Scheduler** by scrolling with the up/down arrows.
3. Press **ENTER**.
4. The Scheduler dialog box opens.
5. Select the recording Group you want to cancel by scrolling with the up/down arrows.
6. Press the **C** button on the remote control.
7. An "Are you sure?" dialog box will open giving you the opportunity to confirm your choice or cancel.
8. Press **ENTER** again to answer "Yes" and confirm the cancellation.
9. Or, scroll with the left/right arrows to **No** and then press **ENTER** to return to the previous screen.

When you cancel a recording Group, the Group will remain available in a disabled state until all recordings belonging to the Group are recycled or reclaimed. If there are no recordings associated with the Group, it will be deleted immediately and cannot be restored.

Modifying a Scheduled Recording

After setting up a scheduled standard recording or recording Group, you can edit some of the recording parameters prior to the recording taking place. The procedure is similar to that described above for changing the end time of a recording in progress. For a standard scheduled recording, you can edit the start time, end time, and recording quality. For a recording Group, you can edit the Group's size and recording quality.

From the Scheduler Page



To modify the settings for a recording:

1. Press the **MENU** button on the remote control.

2. Select **Scheduler** from the list. The window opens, showing the Keepers and Groups categories.
3. Select the category that contains the show to be modified.
4. Press the **ENTER** button.
5. The list of all shows in the category is displayed in the window. Scroll with the up/down arrows to select the show to be changed.
6. Press the **ENTER** button.
7. The Modify Settings window opens.
8. Scroll with the up/down arrows to select a parameter to edit.
9. Use the left/right arrows to modify the current settings.
10. When you are finished changing the current settings, scroll to **Accept modified settings**.
11. Press **ENTER** to confirm the changes.



To exit without saving your edits, press the **BACK** button.

DELETING A RECORDED PROGRAM

Overview

Even though current hard disks are quite large, you can't save everything you record. There will come a time when you'll want to remove a recorded program. The Recorded Shows page, accessed from the Main Menu, contains utility functions to allow you to manage your video program library.

Removing shows recorded with Digital VCR is similar to removing any type of file on your PC. Unwanted files are placed into a recycle bin. Files that are recycled are permanently erased when the recycle bin is emptied or when the system reclaims disk space to save a new recording.

How to Delete

Deleted shows are placed into the **Recycled** folder.

Follow these steps to delete a recorded program from your library.



1. On the remote control, press the **MENU** button to access the Main Menu.
2. Use the up/down arrows to select **Recorded Shows**.
3. Hit the **ENTER** button to view the recorded program category list.
4. Scroll with the up/down arrows to select the category containing the show you want to delete.
5. Hit the **ENTER** button to display the contents of that category.
6. Select the show to be deleted.
7. On the remote control, press the **C** button.
8. Confirm the delete operation in the dialog box by pressing **ENTER**.

You can exit without deleting the file by scrolling to **No** in the dialog box and pressing the **ENTER** button. You can also exit the dialog box by pressing the **BACK** button on the remote control.



SHORTCUT: You can recycle the entire contents of any selected category directly without needing to open its folder or select its contents. From the Recorded Shows page, press the **C** button after selecting a category. Answer 'Yes' to the prompt.

Removing a Show From the Recycled Folder

All deleted shows are placed in the Recycled folder. You do not need to clear shows manually from the Recycled folder; they will be removed automatically as space is needed for new recordings. If you accidentally recycle a show, it can be restored from this folder.

To restore a show from the Recycled folder:



1. Press the **MENU** button on the remote to open the Main Menu.
2. Select **Recorded Shows**.
3. Press the **ENTER** button, the **Recorded Shows** page opens.
4. Select the **Recycled** folder from the list.
5. Press the **ENTER** button, the **Recycled** folder opens.
6. Scroll with the up/down arrows to select a show to be restored.
7. Press the **B** button.
8. Confirm the operation in the dialog box. Press **ENTER** to answer "Yes" and complete the file restoration. To cancel, select **No** and press **ENTER**.

Manually Deleting a Program

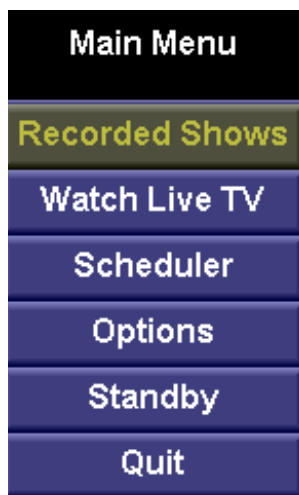
To permanently delete a program from the Recycled folder manually:

1. Press the **MENU** button on the remote to open the Main Menu.
2. Select **Recorded Shows**.
3. Press the **ENTER** button, the **Recorded Shows** page opens.
4. Select the **Recycled** folder from the list.
5. Press the **ENTER** button, the **Recycled** folder opens.
6. Select a show to be deleted.
7. Press the **C** button. Notice that it is marked **Delete** on screen.
8. Confirm the operation in the dialog box. Press **ENTER** to answer "Yes", or select **No** and press **ENTER**.

THE MAIN MENU

Overview

The Main Menu gives you quick and easy access to the most important Digital VCR features. Although the remote control has dedicated buttons for most of the functions found in the Main Menu, some users may prefer using this page as a home base.



To display the Main Menu, press the **MENU** button on your remote control. You can close the Main Menu display at any time without making a selection by pressing the **MENU** button again.

The Main Menu Features

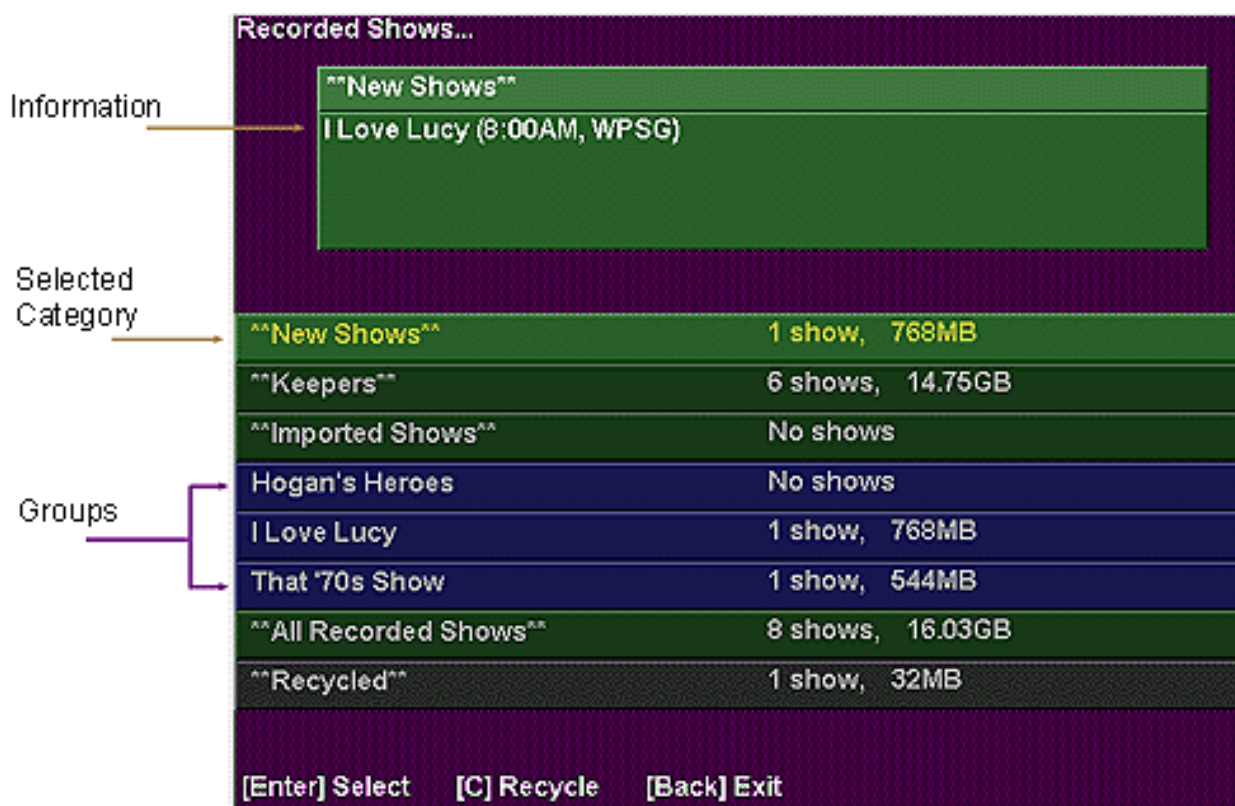
This section describes the pages, features, and options available from the Main Menu screen. To move around the items in the list, use the up/down arrows. The currently selected item will be highlighted. To make a selection, press the **ENTER** button.

Recorded Shows

This page shows an overview of all program recordings stored on your system, sorted by category. Each category name is actually a button. When clicked, a new page opens that displays a list of all shows that have been recorded and are available for viewing. Shows are sorted into the following categories:

- **New Shows** - use this list to quickly see the most recent additions to your recorded library, regardless of category

- **Keepers** - shows that have been recorded and are not part of a Group
- **Imported Shows** - shows that have been added to your library from a backup disk or other source
- **Recording Groups** - each Group will be displayed with its own listing of contents
- **All Recorded Shows** - an overview of all available shows currently stored on your system
- **Recycled** - a list of shows that have been marked to be deleted



Each category is similar to a folder on your PC; it is a container into which shows are placed. To open any category's folder, double-click it or select it with the remote control arrow buttons and then hit **ENTER**. Every show selection in a category has a still-frame picture from the show used as an icon, and assorted recording information (such as recording date, time, channel, etc.). Also included is information about the show's total time and the last time at which playback was stopped. You'll see something like this: [17min/30min]. This means that show playback was stopped after 17 minutes of the available 30 minutes had been watched. Playback will resume from this point when you press **ENTER**.

Selecting a Show

Scroll with the up/down arrows to select a show. Up and Down scroll indicators will appear if there are more entries available than will fit on one screen. To start playback, press the **ENTER** button.

Show Information

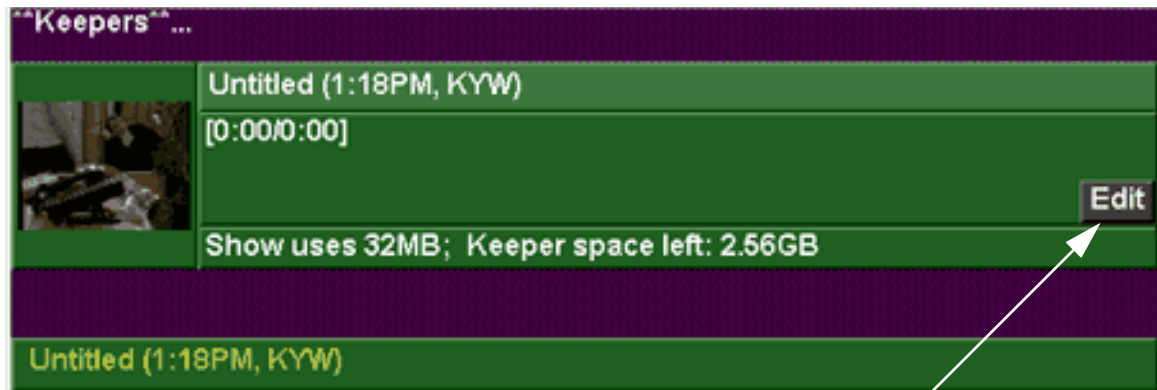
When you set up a show to be recorded, you have the option of adding descriptive text that will appear in the Information section of the Recorded Shows window. Two text fields are available, Title and Description.

The Title field is the top line of the Information section, and is the shorter of the two text entries. Use this for the most important to-the-point description of your recording. For example, "*Hockey Championship*". This text appears when viewing show titles when sorted by category. This text should be kept brief.

The Description field is larger and allows more detail to be entered. Remember that this field's text does not appear until the show is selected. So for the Hockey game described above, the Description field could hold "*Game 3 from Thursday night with the great scoring rally in the last 3 minutes - Wow!*".

Editing Show Information

If a show has been recorded without a description, or if you need to change the description entered previously, text can be added from your PC keyboard while on this page.



[Click here to edit](#)

To change or add text:

1. Open the Recorded Shows window.
2. Select and open the category window that contains the show to be edited.
3. Select the show for which you want to add or change the description.
4. The show's current title and description are displayed in the Information section of the window.
5. Click the **Edit** button in the Information section.
6. The description editing window opens.
7. Use your PC keyboard to add text to the **Title** and **Description** fields as needed.
8. Press **Enter** to save your changes

To exit without saving your edits, press the **BACK** button on the remote, press the **Esc** (escape) key on the PC keyboard, or click the **[Back]** button in the text edit window.

Deleting a Recorded Show

You can also delete recorded programs from the Recorded Shows page. The process of deleting a show works in a similar manner to the recycle bin on your PC desktop. Any show that is

recycled is placed into this special folder until the hard disk space is needed for additional recordings, or until you empty the recycle folder manually.

To delete a show:



1. Scroll with the up/down arrows to select a show.
2. Press the **C** button on the remote control to place the currently selected program into the recycle folder.
3. You will be prompted with a confirmation dialog box, giving you a chance to change your mind or cancel an incorrect selection.
4. Scroll with the left/right arrow keys to select **Yes** or **No** in the dialog box, and then press **ENTER** on your remote control to complete the action.

Once a program file is recycled, the disk space becomes available for use again.

Deleting Shows in the Recycle Folder

Shows in the Recycle folder will be reclaimed automatically as you schedule new recordings. However, if you want to clear items from the Recycle Folder immediately, you can do so at any time.

To manually delete the contents of the recycle folder, follow these steps:



1. From the Main Menu, select the **Recorded Shows** entry.
2. Press the **ENTER** button.
3. The Recorded Shows page opens.
4. Select the **Recycled** folder from the list.
5. Hit **ENTER**.
6. The Recycled folder opens.
7. Press the **C** button.
8. You will be prompted with a confirmation dialog box.
9. Select **Yes** to confirm the delete process or select **No** to cancel.



Removing Shows from the Recycle Folder

A show in the Recycle folder can be restored to its previous status in case it is recycled accidentally.

To restore a show:



1. Select the **Recycled** folder from the list on the Recorded Shows page.
2. Hit **ENTER**.
3. The Recycled folder opens.
4. Select a show to be restored.
5. Press the **B** button.
6. You will be prompted with a confirmation dialog box.
7. Select **Yes** to confirm the restoration process or select **No** to cancel.

The restored show will be returned to the category from which it was deleted.

Watch Live TV

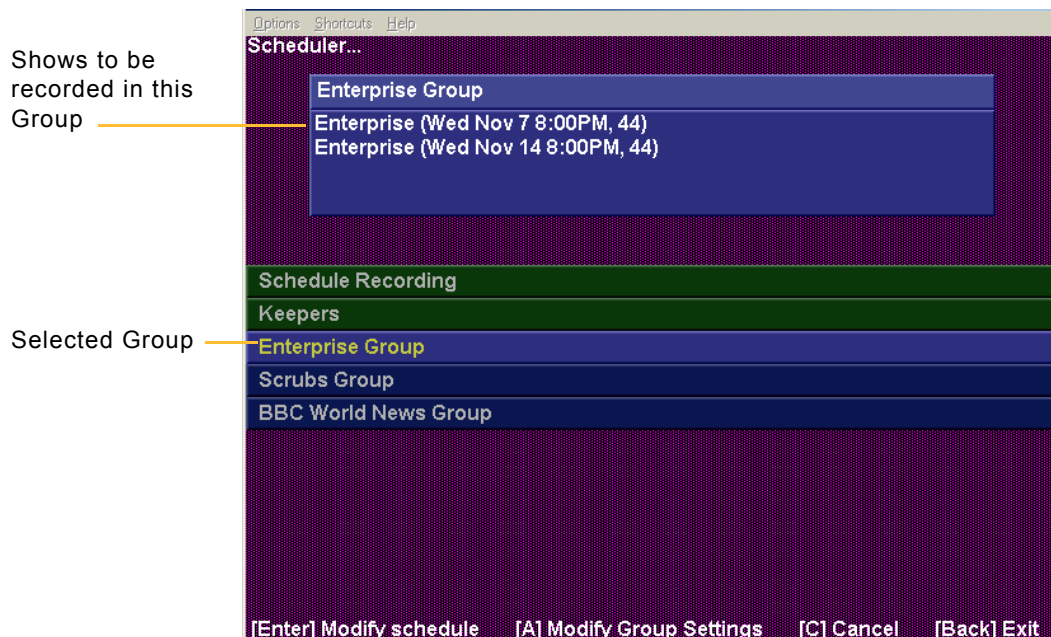
This option is the equivalent of the **LIVE TV** button on the remote control. To select it, scroll with the up/down arrows and then press the **ENTER** button.

Scheduler

This page displays a list of all single shows and recording Groups that are scheduled to be recorded, along with the descriptions you entered for each show. Shows without tiles and/or descriptions appear as “Untitled”.

Shows on this page are sorted by category; individually scheduled shows are placed in the Keepers folder while each Group recording appears as separate entry. When an item is selected, information about the shows that will be recorded is displayed in the information box at the top of the page.

The up/down arrow buttons can be used to select an entry in the list. The selection will be highlighted, indicated by a change of the text field's background color and text color. Press the **ENTER** button to open the Keepers folder or to modify the schedule for a Group recording.



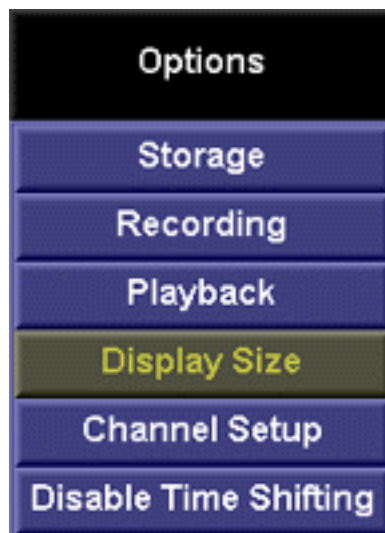
The **C** button on the remote control can be used to cancel a recording and remove it from the schedule. Scroll with the up/down arrows to choose a program name to be canceled. For Group recordings, the cancel operation actually just disables the recording function. When cancelling a Group recording, notice that after pressing the **C** button to cancel the Group recording, the on-screen text for the **C** button will change to **Reenable**. This allows you to return later and restart your Group recording with a single button press.

Some of the record settings can be modified after scheduling a program to be recorded. See “*Modifying a Scheduled Recording*” on page 65.

Press the **BACK** button to exit the window.

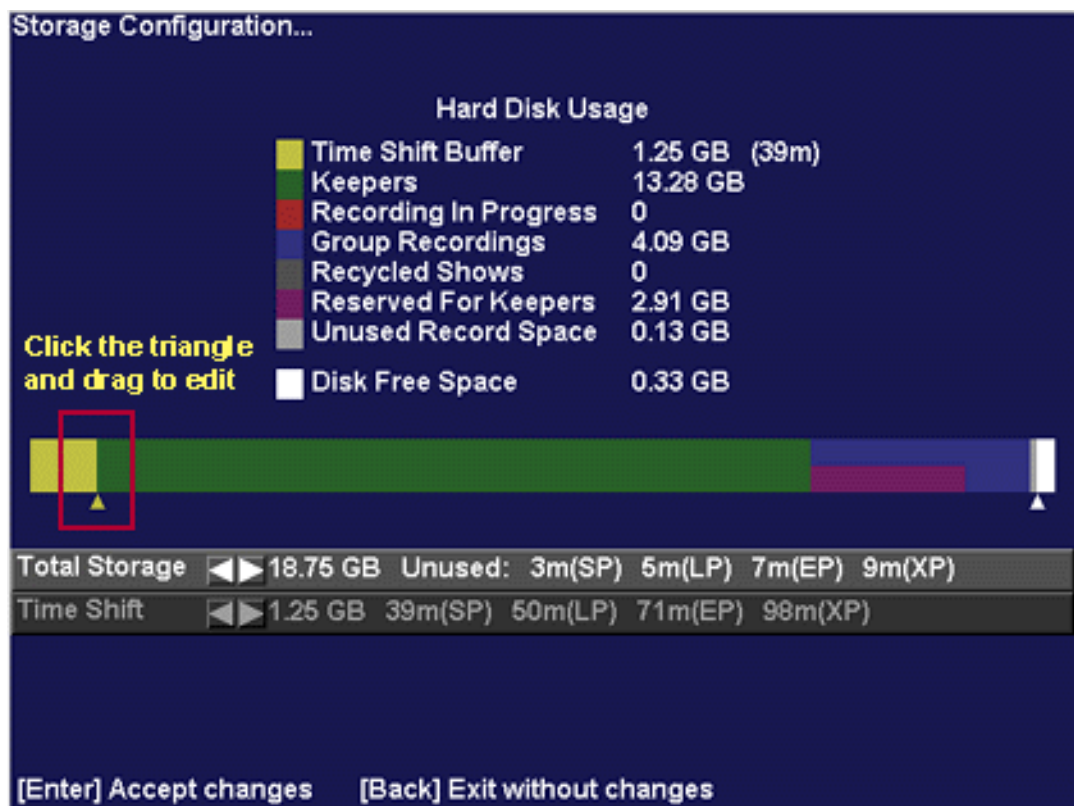
The Options Menu

The Options menu provides access to record and playback settings. Clicking on the **Options** button in the Main Menu will open another menu where you can select the various record and playback settings pages, as described below. To choose a page, scroll with the up/down arrows to make a selection. Then, press **ENTER** to open the page.



Storage Configuration

The Storage Configuration page provides an overview of all current system disk use settings. Fields on this page can be edited to change your system setup in real time without running the Setup Wizard. The storage readouts will update in real time to reflect any changes being made.



Each area of the storage system is identified with a unique color.

- **Yellow** - Time Shift buffer size - space set aside for rewinding and replay of live TV
- **Green** - Keepers - shows that have been recorded and are available for viewing
- **Red** - Recording - space being used for a recording in progress now
- **Blue** - Groups - the sum of all space used by Group recordings
- **Dark Grey** - Recycled - the sum of all shows currently in the Recycled folder
- **Purple** - Reserved - space that is set aside for scheduled recordings that have not yet taken place. Note that this bar overlaps the blue Group color bar. This indicates that a portion of the Group space will be reclaimed for use by scheduled recordings. Scheduled recordings have a higher priority than Group recordings.
- **Light Grey** - Free space - hard disk space that is available to be used for new recordings
- **White** - Disk left - free space on your hard disk not used by Digital VCR that is set aside for the storing other types of data (applications, games, music, etc.)

Changing Storage Settings

To make a change to a setting, you can edit from the remote control or with the PC keyboard and mouse. The Total Storage and Time Shift edit fields display both hard disk space amounts (in GB) and recording time (in minutes). The recording time displays are shown for each of the preset recording quality settings.

Total Storage Amount

To change the Total Storage amount from the remote control:



1. From the Main Menu, select **Storage**.
2. Press **ENTER** to open the Storage Configuration page.
3. Use the up/down arrows to select the **Total Storage** parameter.
4. Use the left/right arrows to increase or decrease the total amount of your hard disk to be used for Digital VCR storage. (The individual storage readouts will update in real time to reflect the changes being made.)
5. To use the new settings press **ENTER**, or press the **BACK** button to exit the Storage Configuration page without saving your changes.

Time Shift Amount

To change the Time Shift amount from the remote control:

1. From the Main Menu, select **Storage**.
2. Press **ENTER** to open the Storage Configuration page.
3. Use the up/down arrows to select the **Time Shift** parameter.
4. Use the left/right arrows to increase or decrease the amount of your hard disk to be used for Time Shifting.
5. Press **ENTER** to save your changes, or press the **BACK** button to exit without saving changes.

To edit the from the PC keyboard, use the arrow keys to navigate and select a field. In addition, the bar graph itself can be edited with the mouse. See the region highlighted in the graphic above. The editable area is designated with a triangle below the bar graph.

To edit the storage sizes from the bar graph:

1. Position your mouse over the seam between the settings you want to change (the seams are indicated with a triangle).
2. The cursor shape will change to a double-headed arrow shape.
3. Click on the graph with the left mouse button.
4. While still holding the mouse button down, drag left or right to change the sizes.
5. All on-screen readouts will update in real time as you edit.
6. Release the mouse button when you reach the desired value.
7. To confirm the settings, press the **ENTER** button or press the **BACK** button to exit without saving changes.

Recording Settings

This page shows you the current quality setting that will be used for recording. When the page opens, your default recording setting is highlighted.

To change the current recording quality setting:

1. From the Options menu, click the **Recording** button to open the Recording Options menu.
2. Scroll with the up/down arrows to choose a new record quality setting.
3. Press the **ENTER** button to confirm the new setting.
4. To exit without changing the current setting, press the **BACK** button.



The four available standard preset recording quality settings are:

- Best (SP)
- Better (LP)
- Good (EP)
- Economy (XP)

In addition to the four preset recording quality settings, there is a Custom Quality setting. Pressing the **Custom** button will open a setup dialog box. Here you can select video and audio record/playback options and tailor them to your needs.

The Custom Recording Quality Settings



Each of the Custom Recording rate settings is described below:

Video Compression - the range is from 1.0 Mbits/sec to 8.0 Mbits/sec in 0.1 units. Higher values require more computing power and provide a better picture.

Resolution - 640 x 480, 320 x 480, and 480 x 480 lines of resolution; 640 x 480 is the best quality.

Audio Sampling Rate - 32 kHz (samples recorded per second, in thousands).

Audio Compression - the available settings are: off, 64, 96, 128, 160, 192, 224, 256, 320, and 384 Kbits/sec. Higher values indicate better audio quality. Setting Audio Compression to "off" records audio at full bandwidth. This requires the most computing power.

To change a setting:

1. Scroll with the up/down arrows to select a field.
2. Use the left/right arrows to change the selected parameter.
3. Press the **ENTER** button to confirm your changes.
4. Or, press the **BACK** button to exit without saving changes.

Changes can be made from the remote control or the PC keyboard.

As a reference, the following table lists the settings used for the four preset recording quality settings. This data may be useful when creating a Custom setting.

Table 1: Preset Recording Rate Settings

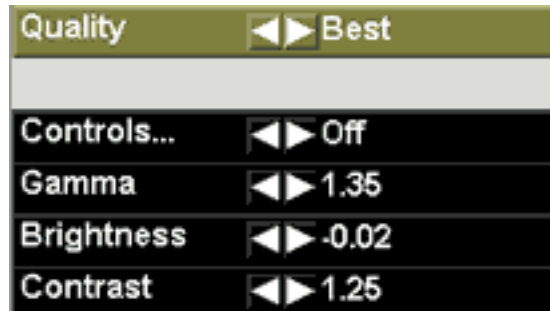
Quality Setting	Sample Rate	Audio Type	Video Compression	Screen Resolution	Disk Use
Best (SP)	32k	384 Kb/sec MPEG	4.0 Mbits/sec	640 x 480	1.92 GB/ hour
Better (LP)	32k	384 Kb/sec MPEG	3.0 Mbits/sec	480 x 480	1.44 GB/ hour
Good (EP)	32k	192 Kb/sec MPEG	2.2 Mbits/sec	480 x 480	1.02 GB/ hour
Economy (XP)	16k	128 Kb/sec MPEG	1.6 Mbits/sec	320 x 480	0.72 GB/ hour

Playback Settings

The playback settings allow you set up preferences that best accommodate the PC system that you are using. Use the up/down arrows to move among the items in the list. From the Options menu, click the **Playback** button to open the Playback Options menu.

Playback Quality

The Playback Quality setting lets you trade processor power for picture quality. You can record shows at the highest quality settings, even if your computer processor/video card combination is not capable of smooth playback at that setting.



The available settings are:

- **Fastest** - Use with a slower processor, or when running other tasks on your PC.
- **Best** - Use with the fastest processors for the best picture quality.

Display Controls

The Controls setting is a simple on/off switch for the three variables below it.

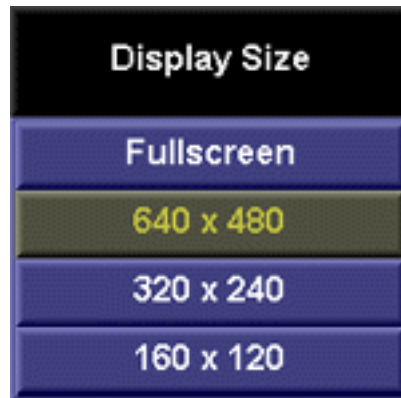
The settings in this section allow you to adjust the Digital VCR picture to accommodate different monitors and video cards. Since the single switch controls three parameters, you can toggle the Controls switch to compare your changed settings with the default settings.

To use the display controls, first scroll to the **Controls...** parameter. Set it to **On** by using the left/right arrows. Then, scroll with the up/down arrows to select a display parameter. Use the left/right arrows to change the value on any of these settings.

- **Gamma** (midtones) - values range from 0.50 to 2.50
- **Brightness** (high tones) - values range from -1.00 to 1.00
- **Contrast** (dark tones) - values range from 0.00 to 3.00

Display Size

You can watch Digital VCR either in full screen or in a standard resizable desktop window. Clicking the **Display** button in the Options menu opens a list of available video display options.



There are four available display choices. Window sizes are give in pixels.

Fullscreen

To watch video at full size after using one of the desktop window options, choose **Fullscreen** from the list of options. No title bars, etc., are available.

Window - 640 x 480

This selection displays the Digital VCR picture in a standard desktop window. This is the largest windowed picture available. This gives you access to the rest of your Windows desktop features while watching video playback.

Half-Size Window - 320 x 240

The desktop window video display is shown at half of its normal size.

Quarter-Size Window - 160 x 120

This video setting shows the video output at its smallest available size, one quarter of the size of the standard Window 640 x 480 setting.

To exit the Display Size window, press the **BACK** button, or use the Escape (**Esc**) key on the PC keyboard.

Channel Setup

On this page, you select which channels will be available when you press the channel up/down buttons on the remote control. In addition, you can choose a group of channels to appear as Favorites - a subset of your entire channels list.

Channels in your setup can be saved in one of three states:

- **Hidden** - The channel is not available from the remote control channel up/down arrows, but *is* saved in your channel list.
- **Active** - The channel is available from the remote control channel up/down arrows. The channel is not available when you switch to Favorites mode.
- **Favorite** - The channel is available from the remote control channel up/down arrows at all times. It is in the group of channels that will be available when using Favorites mode.

Adding Channels

Managing your channels is very easy. Channels can be added directly from this page. A channel's status can also be set, allowing it to be Active, Hidden, or selected as a Favorite.

To scan for occupied channels:

1. Press the **Menu** button.
2. Select **Options**.
3. Select **Channel Setup** from the Options menu.
4. The Channel Setup page opens.
5. If you have no channels defined, Digital VCR will offer to add the current channel. Press **Enter** to accept or **Back** to delete.
6. When the channel list is displayed, press **Find** to scan for occupied channels.
7. When the scan is complete, the channel list will be displayed allowing you to edit individual channels.

To add a channel:



1. Press the **MENU** button
2. Select **Options**.
3. Select **Channel Setup** from the Options menu.
4. The Channel Setup page opens.
5. Press the **A** button to add a channel.
6. Type in the channel number you want to add using your PC keyboard.
7. Press the **Enter** key on your keyboard.
8. Another text box opens. Type in the name (if desired) for this channel. The text field here is only large enough to accept a few letters. Use something easy to recognize, like the network name (i.e., PBS, NBC, ESPN, etc.).
9. Press the **Enter** key on your keyboard.
10. Continue adding channels until finished.

The status for each channel is also edited on this page. You can change these settings at any time.

12 (PBS)	◀▶ Active
12 (PBS)	◀▶ Hidden
12 (PBS)	◀▶ Favorite

The Three Available Channel States

To set the status for each channel:

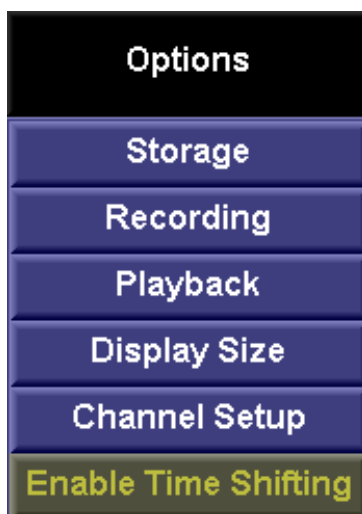
1. With the Channel Setup page still open, select a channel to edit by scrolling with the up/down arrows.
2. The editable channel is now highlighted.
3. Use the left/right arrows to change the status to one of the three states—Active, Hidden, or Favorite.
4. Scroll up or down to any other channel and edit its settings.
5. When finished editing, press the **BACK** button to exit the Channel Setup page.



SHORTCUT: If you occasionally connect your digital camera, etc. to the External Video input, set the status of Channel 0 (Ext Vid) to Hidden when it is not in use. By doing this, your channel list will not include the camera input except when needed.

Time Shifting

Digital VCR has a tuner-only playback mode available that disables some features. This may be useful in situations where you do not need the ability to pause, replay, or rewind live TV programming, such as when viewing recorded programs in your video library. Time Shifting defaults to Disabled.



When Time Shifting is turned off, the functions of the Digital VCR software that write data to disk are stopped, thus eliminating the sounds created by the disk activity.

The status of the Time Shifting setting (enabled/disabled) is saved when you quit the Digital VCR application. The text you see for this button changes depending upon the playback mode currently in use (Time Shifting enabled or disabled).

Disable Time Shifting



To disable the Time Shifting feature, scroll down using the arrow buttons until **Disable Time Shifting** is highlighted, and then press **ENTER** on your remote control.

In this mode, reception of live TV signals continues as before. The Digital VCR card still functions as a TV tuner card. But, since there is no disk activity, there is no Time Shift buffer. You can watch the live TV signal, select programs from the remote control, or watch a prerecorded program. Recording of live programs or future scheduled programs operates as before; the Time Shift buffer does not impact the recording functions.

The following features are disabled while watching the *live* TV input:

- Stop
- Pause - no Thumbnails are created
- Rewind
- Replay
- Skip
- Fast Forward (FF)
- Bookmarks



NOTE: These features are not disabled if you are watching a prerecorded program since they do not require the Time Shift buffer.

Enable Time Shifting

Once you have disabled the Time Shifting feature, it can be enabled again by returning to the Options page, available from the Main Menu. The menu text will now read **Enable Time Shifting** instead of **Disable Time Shifting**. Using the arrow buttons, scroll down to select **Enable Time Shifting**, and then press **ENTER** on your remote control. The full functionality of the Digital VCR is returned.

In addition, if you are watching live TV while Time Shifting is disabled, pressing the **PAUSE** button on the remote control will cause a warning message to appear on screen. This will give you the opportunity to immediately enable Time Shifting. When the dialog appears select **YES** to enable Time Shifting.

Select **NO** if you do not want to restart the Time Shift features. Then, press the **ENTER** button on the remote control to confirm your selection. To return to running without Time Shifting, you must reselect this option from the Options page of the Main Menu.

Main Menu Application Controls

Standby

This option turns off the video display but leaves the scheduler portion of the application running in the background.

When Standby is selected:

- The video display portion of the Digital VCR will stop
- There is no disk activity
- The PC display is reset to its default desktop size
- The Digital VCR icon appears in the Task Bar

When in Standby, the Digital VCR will automatically wake up to record any programs that have been added to the recording schedule. Recording is done in the background.



To enter Standby mode, press the **MENU** button on the remote control and choose **Standby** from the list. Or, hold the **POWER ON/MENU** button down for about four seconds. The application will close, placing an icon in the Task Bar on the desktop.

To wake up from Standby mode, press the **POWER ON** button on the remote control. You can also enter/exit Standby mode from the Task Bar by clicking on the Digital VCR icon found there. A menu will pop out with selections for Standby/Wake Up and Quit.

Quit

Choosing **Quit** will exit the Digital VCR application. Exiting the application is different than placing it in Standby mode. **Scheduled recordings will not take place.** Quit the application rather than place it in Standby when you want to use your PC for graphics and audio-intensive activities, such as playing video games.

If recordings are scheduled, a warning dialog will appear as a reminder that recordings will *not* take place while the application is shut down. In the dialog box, click **Yes** to quit, or **No** to return to Digital VCR.

USING EXTERNAL DEVICES

13

Overview

The video and audio inputs on the Digital VCR card can accept signals coming from external devices such as a VCR, digital camera, camcorder, or a DVD player. This enables you to use these devices without the need for a standard television set.

The external video input appears as Channel 0 on the tuner. It can be selected using the same methods used for selecting any other live video channel. The video input signal type (S-Video or Composite) is selected in the Setup Wizard.

Video Connectors



RCA



S-VIDEO

Connecting an S-Video Device

Connecting an external device requires two steps, connecting the hardware and choosing software settings.

Connect the Hardware

To connect a video device that has an S-Video output, follow these steps:

1. Connect an S-Video cable from the video output of your device to the video input on your Digital VCR card. You do not need the supplied adapter cable for this setup.
2. Connect the audio outputs from your device to the audio inputs on the Digital VCR card.

You may need an adapter cable to connect the RCA audio outputs found on most consumer electronics devices to the Digital VCR card. Refer to area 1 in the diagram below.



NOTE: If you opt to not connect the audio outputs from the S-Video device to the Digital VCR card, the audio signal may not be in sync with the video signal.

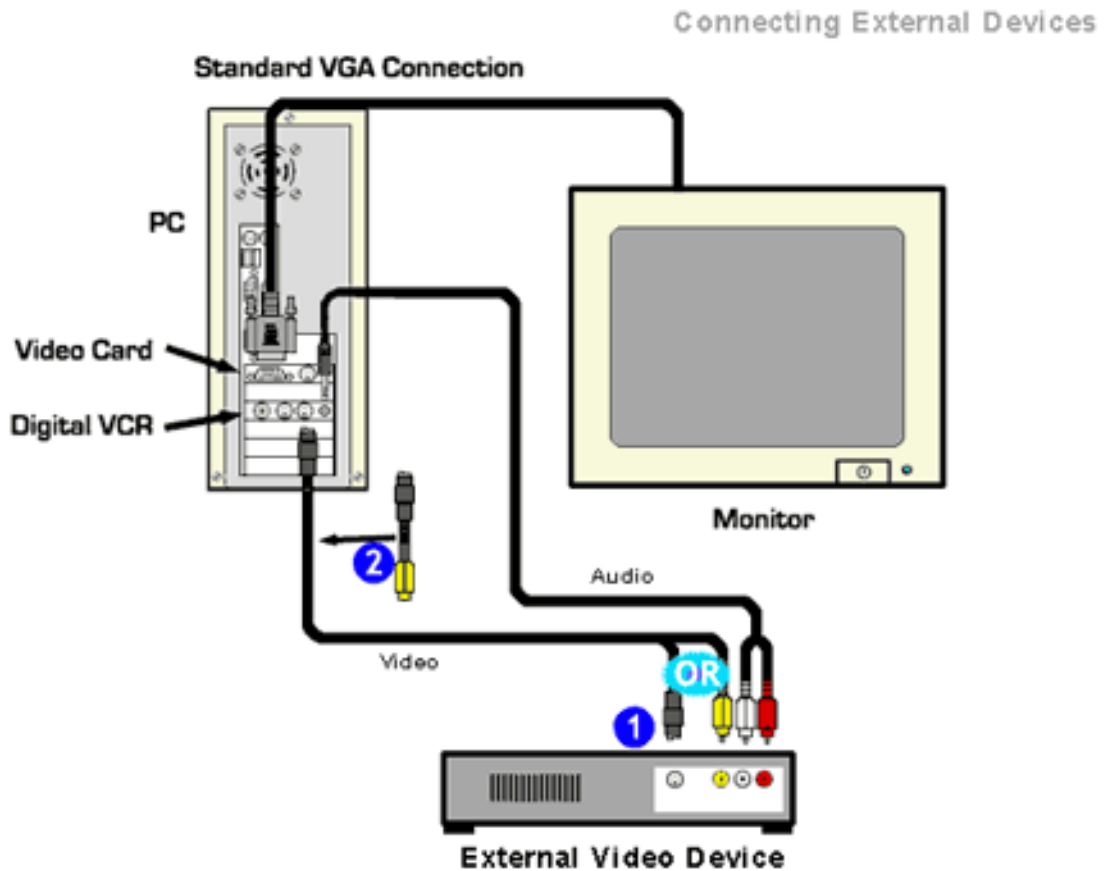
Software Settings

To select the S-Video input from the Setup Wizard:

1. Quit the Digital VCR application.
2. Select **Start >>> Programs >>> Creative >>> VB Digital VCR >>> Reconfigure Digital VCR**.
3. Select the **Video Input** page.
4. Click the **S-Video** radio button.
5. Click the **Save Settings** button.
6. Click the **Exit** button.

0

The new settings will be available the next time the Digital VCR software is launched. To watch the external video device, select channel **0** (zero) on the remote control. Do this by pressing the number **0** (zero) button followed by the **ENTER** button.



Connecting a Device with a Separate Video Output

You need the supplied adapter cable for this setup.

To connect a device that has separate audio and video outputs, follow these steps:

1. Connect the supplied S-Video to RCA adapter to the video input on the Digital VCR card. Refer to area 2 in the diagram.
2. Connect an RCA cable from the video output of your device to the video input on the adapter connected to the Digital VCR card in the step above.
3. Connect the audio outputs from your device to the audio inputs on the Digital VCR card.

You may need an adapter cable to connect the RCA audio outputs found on most consumer electronics devices to the Digital VCR card.

To select the Video input signal type:

1. Quit the Digital VCR application.
2. Select **Start >>> Programs >>> Creative >>> VB Digital VCR >>> Reconfigure Digital VCR**.
3. Select the **Video Input** page.
4. Click the **Composite** radio button.
5. Click the **Save Settings** button.
6. Click the **Exit** button.

The new settings will be available the next time the Digital VCR software is launched. To watch the external video device, select channel **0** (zero) on the remote control. Do this by pressing the number **0** button followed by the **ENTER** button.



EXPORTING FILES

Overview

The files created by Digital VCR can only be played by the Digital VCR application. These files can be backed up using standard file copying techniques. Copy the files to a different hard drive or directory, archive them with backup utility software, or create a backup CD-ROM by using a CD-RW device. When backing up files using simple copy techniques, be sure to save both the folder containing the show's recorded segments and the .bti file which contains the show description. Do not rename the files.

The Digital VCR installation includes a stand-alone file conversion utility, **File Exporter**, that can export files in a format (MPEG-2) that can be played by most software DVD players (available separately) as well as by Digital VCR. The File Exporter also makes it easy to create files that will fit the size limitations of CD-Recordable devices used for backup purposes. The File Exporter application was placed in your Digital VCR directory during the installation process. The default location is C:\Program Files\Creative\VB Digital VCR\File Exporter.



NOTE: When exporting files, remember that the exported files will take up the same amount of disk space as the source files. Be sure that there is sufficient space on the disk where exported files will be stored before starting the export process.

File Types

There are two types of Digital VCR files that can be used with the export utility. The extensions used for these are ".bti" and ".bth". Both files types are saved when you record a file using the Digital VCR. The default location for these files is the MPG directory created during the initial installation process.

The ".bti" file is found at the root level of the MPG folder. This file contains the basic description of the recorded file. The ".bth" file is found within the folder created to hold the individual recorded segments that make up the saved program. (You will actually see a group of .bth files in this folder. The number varies according to the size of the recorded program.) There is no advantage or disadvantage to using one file type or the other in the conversion process. Both will output the same file for archiving.

Working With Files

To Export a File

The Digital VCR application is not needed during the export process. It can be left running or placed in Standby mode.

The File Exporter gives you the option of creating files that are optimized to a specific size. This is ideal if you are planning to backup shows onto CD-ROM disks or other media. If you do not plan to save exported shows to transportable media, export the show as a single file.

Running the File Exporter

The File Exporter application can be launched by selecting it from the Start Menu or by double-clicking the application icon (dvrexport.exe) in the Digital VCR directory. (As mentioned above, the default location is C:\Program Files\Creative\VB Digital VCR\File Exporter)

Exporting can be broken down into three simple steps—

- ▣ adding files to the export list
- ▣ selecting an output folder
- ▣ converting the files

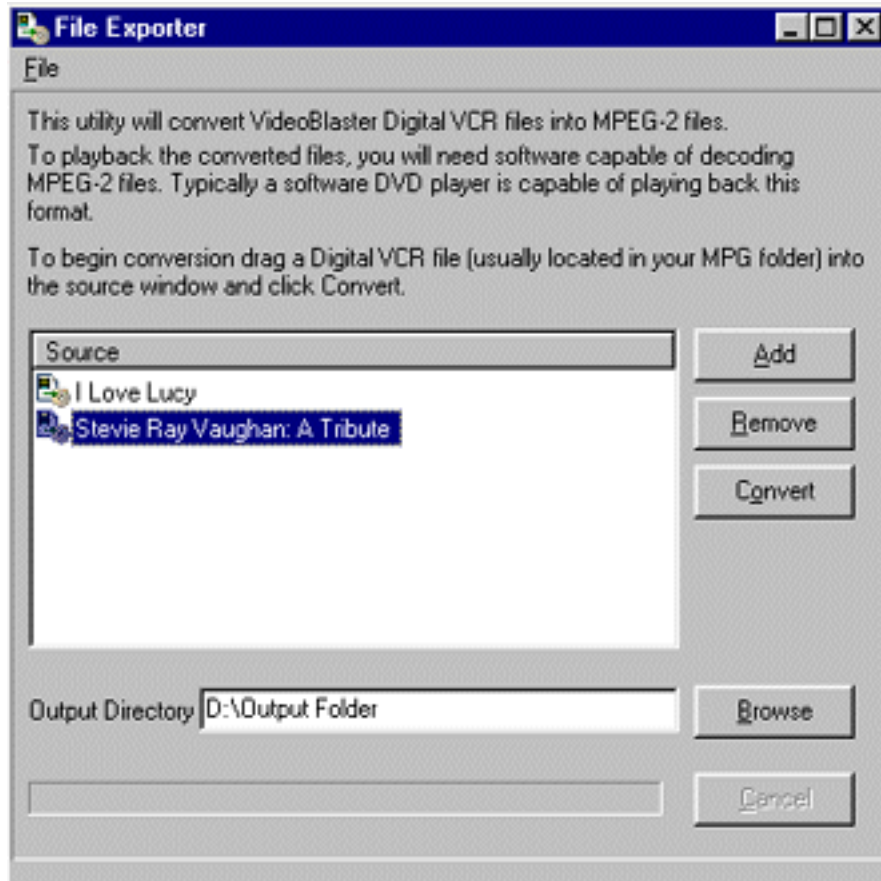
Adding Shows to the Export List

Shows can be added to the export list using either drag-and-drop or conventional directory navigation. Each method is described below.

Via drag-and-drop

To add a file to the export list using drag-and-drop:

1. Launch the File Exporter application.
2. The main window of the File Exporter opens.



3. From the Windows desktop, navigate to your MPG folder and open it.
4. Choose a file to be exported by clicking to highlight it. (*Control-click to select a group of files.*)
5. Drag the file(s) into the File Exporter window.
6. The file names will appear in the **Source** list.

Using the Add button

To add files to the export list using the **Add** button:

1. Click on the **Add** button in the File Exporter window.
2. A standard Windows navigation dialog box will open.
3. Navigate to your MPG folder.
4. Select a show to be added to the export list.
5. Click the **Open** button.
6. The file is added to the export Source list.
7. Repeat this procedure to add additional shows to the list.

Removing Shows from the Export List

Shows in the export Source list can be removed before converting. To do this, highlight the unwanted show in the Source list and click the **Remove** button.

Setting the Output Directory

The Output Directory field shows the folder where the converted files will be stored. The directory setting can also be saved as a preference. Each time the File Exporter is run, the default output directory is selected.

To choose an output directory:

1. Click the **Browse** button.
2. Navigate the directory tree and select a folder where converted files should be stored.
3. Click the **OK** button.
4. You are returned to the main File Exporter window.
5. The path to your output folder is shown in the **Output Directory** field.

Converting the Files

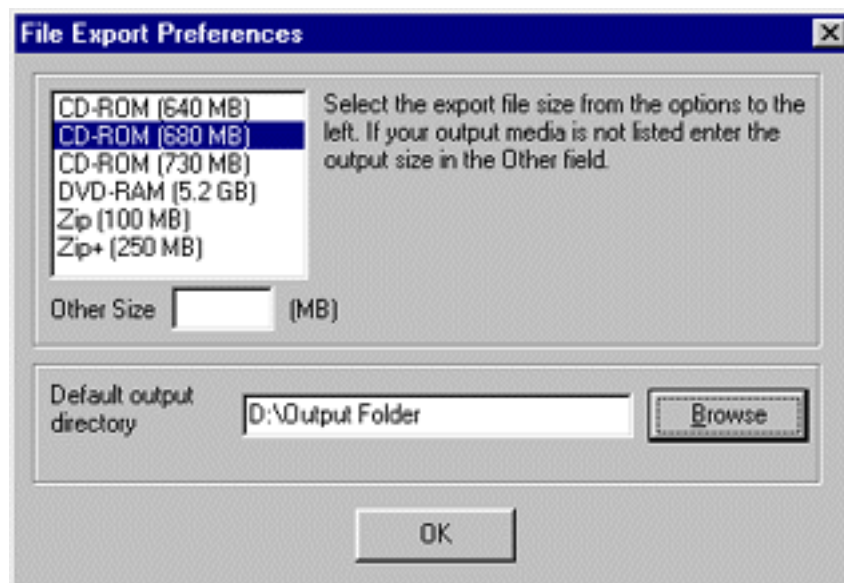
To begin the conversion process, click the **Convert** button. A progress bar is displayed for each file to be converted in your Source list.

To abort the conversion, click the **Cancel** button.

Preferences

This page allows you to set a default output file size and a default output directory. The default files size is useful when making multiple backups to the same size media, such as CD-R.

To set an output file size, simply select a media size from the list. If your media is not listed, enter the desired output file size in the **Other Size** text box.



To select a default output folder, type in a path in the text box or click the **Browse** button. When you click the **Browse** button, a standard Windows navigation window will open. Select your output folder and click **OK**.

When you are finished setting preferences, click the **OK** button to continue. You are returned to the main page of the File Exporter.

Playing Exported Files

The MPEG-2 files exported from the File Exporter can be played on any Digital VCR system. Files that have been exported from Digital VCR can be played directly from the archive media in most cases.

Importing a Show

To play a file that is stored on an archive disk as MPEG-2 file involves importing it into Digital VCR so that its title will appear on the Recorded Shows page. The Recorded Shows page has a special folder named Imported Shows that is used for holding and managing these files. This page allows you to navigate the drives and folders on your PC to locate files to be imported.

Importing a show does not copy it to your hard drive. Instead, Digital VCR plays the file directly from the archive disk. You can, however, make a permanent copy on a local disk. Steps for saving a local copy of an imported file are given below.

To import a show saved as an MPEG-2 file:



1. Press the **MENU** button to open the Main Menu.
2. Select **Recorded Shows**.
3. Press **ENTER** to open the Recorded Shows page.
4. On the Recorded Shows page, select the **Imported Shows** category.

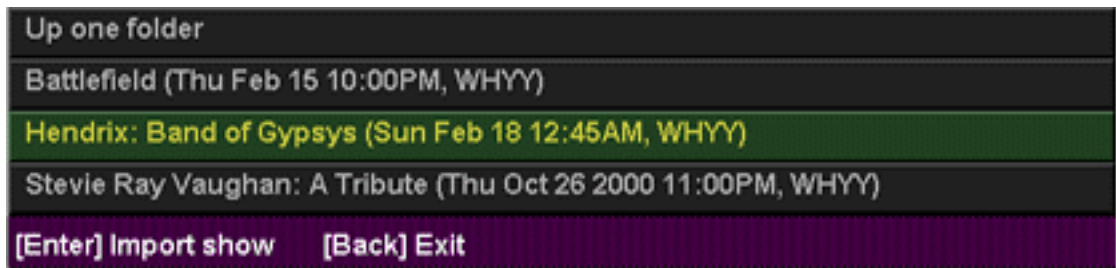
"New Shows"	1 show, 2.03GB
"Keepers"	9 shows, 16.66GB
"Imported Shows"	1 show, 14MB
"All Recorded Shows"	10 shows, 16.67GB
"Recycled"	No shows

5. Press **ENTER** to open the Imported Shows folder.
6. Use the up/down arrows to select **Import a Show**.
7. Press **ENTER**. A list of available drives on your system is displayed.

c:	23 folders, no shows
d:	3 folders, no shows
e:	No folders, no shows

8. Select the drive where your exported file is located by navigating with the up/down arrows.
9. Press **ENTER**; a list of available folders is displayed.
10. Select the folder where your exported file is stored.

11. Press the **ENTER** button to open the folder.



12. Select your exported show.
13. Press **ENTER** to begin the import.

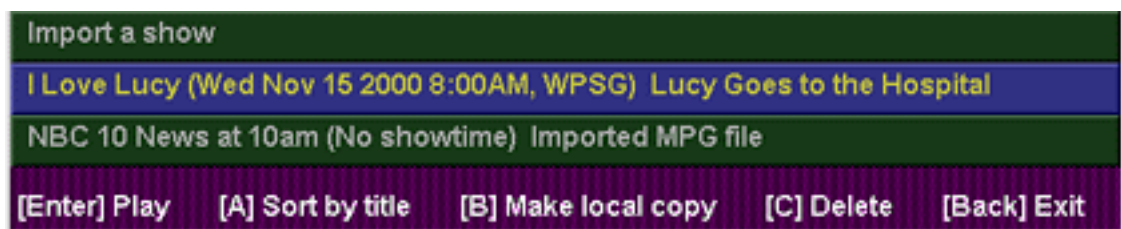
The Show's title will now appear in the Imported Shows folder. It can be selected and played using the same methods as used for playing any other recorded program. To do additional imports, repeat the above process. If you need to navigate to a different folder, select **Up one folder** and press **ENTER**.

Saving a Local Copy of an Imported File

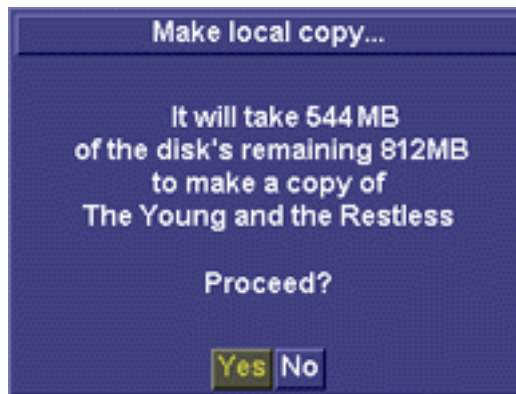
If you prefer to make a copy of an archived file rather than play it from its archive media, you can do this from the Imported Shows folder. A show must be imported first before it can be promoted.

To make a local copy:

1. Open the Recorded Shows page from the Main Menu.
2. Select the **Imported Shows** folder.
3. Press **ENTER** to open it and display its contents.
4. Select the imported show that you want to make a local copy of, using the up/down arrow keys to navigate.
5. When the show is selected, notice that along the bottom of the Imported Shows window there are functions assigned to the **A**, **B**, and **C** buttons.



6. Press the **B** button, assigned to **Make a local copy**.



7. A confirmation dialog box will appear. Press **ENTER** to select the default answer, **Yes**, or scroll to **No** to cancel the operation.

Your show appears in the Imported Shows folder.

Managing Files

To Restore an Archived File

Archived shows can be played back directly from the archive media in most cases. If you use a tape backup system or other archival method, direct playback may not be possible. If your device is not capable of playing back a file, or if you have stored the files on multiple removable disks, the show must be copied back to the current MPG folder manually before you can play it. Digital VCR always looks in the MPG folder for shows to be added to the list you see when you open the Recorded Shows window from the Main Menu.

To restore a file:

1. Copy the archived folder containing the show's .bth files to the MPG folder.
2. Copy the .bti file associated with the archived file also to the MPG folder.
3. Quit the Digital VCR application.
4. Launch the Digital VCR application again.
5. Press the **MENU** button on the remote control.
6. Select **Recorded Shows** from the list.



Your program will appear in the list of available recorded shows. It can be selected and played using the same techniques used for selecting other recorded shows.

To Delete a Restored File

Shows that have been copied from an archive disk to your MPG folder can be deleted by using the same methods used for recycling shows described earlier. "Deleting A Recorded Program" on page 67.

REMOVING THE SOFTWARE

15

Uninstalling the Digital VCR Software

The Setup Maintenance window allows you to change all or part of the currently installed software. The Setup Maintenance window opens when you run the **Add/Remove** program utility from the Control Panel.



Windows 2000 Specific Settings

Systems that use the Windows 2000 operating system have a slightly different Add/Remove page in the Control Panel. In Windows 2000, the page is divided into two halves; one displays multiple functions along the left side, while the right side displays the data for the function selected on the left side. Each function on the left side of the page is selectable by clicking it. Be sure to select the Change or Remove Programs button to begin the software removal process.

In addition, when using Windows 2000, the text on the button that starts the software uninstall process is labeled **Change/Remove**. In Windows 98 and WindowsME, this button is labeled **Add/Remove**.

Common Settings

There are three choices available in the Setup Maintenance window:

- **Modify** - Use this to select individual components to update.
- **Repair** - This option reinstalls the current software version; useful if you suspect that a component of the software has become damaged.
- **Remove** - All components of the software and its drivers are removed.

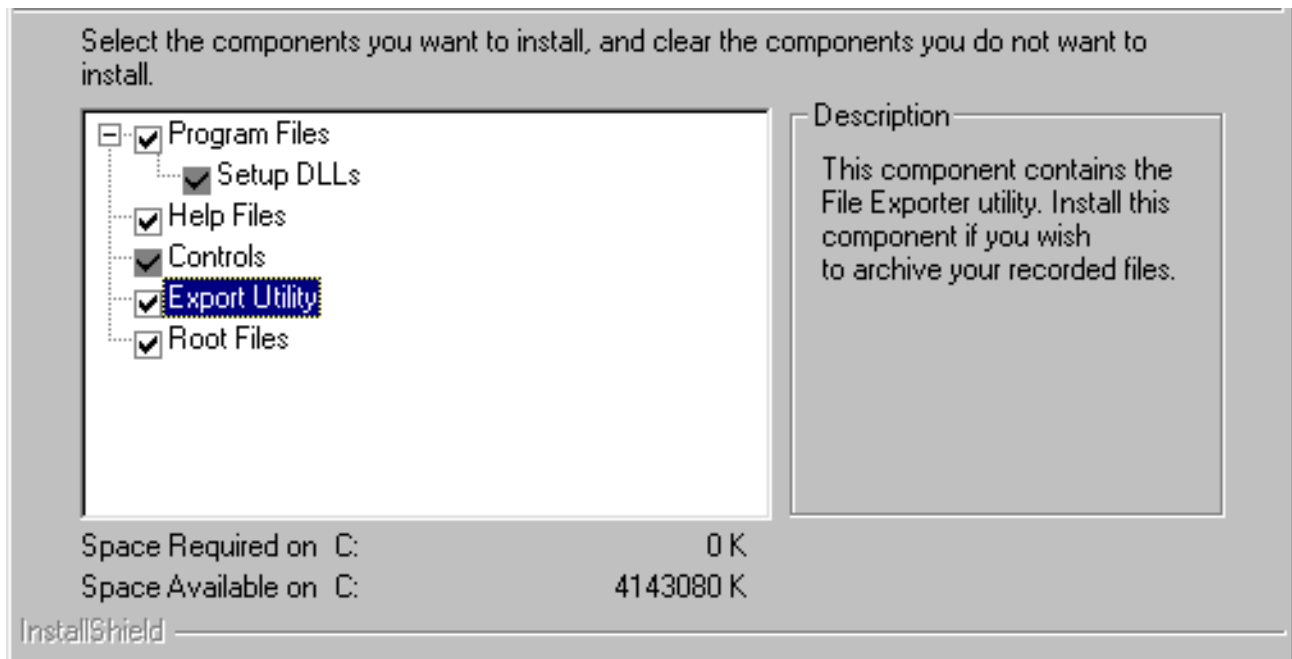


Using the Modify Option

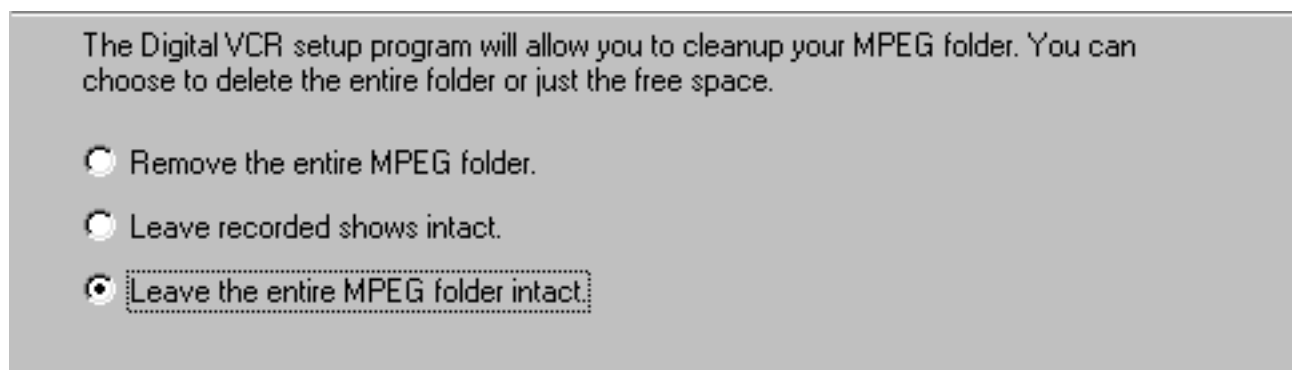
To update individual components of the software, use the Modify option. Here you can select the various components of the application and its utility programs (such as the File Exporter) to be updated. The other components of the application are not changed in the process.

To use the Modify option:

1. Exit the Digital VCR application before proceeding.
2. Click the Start Menu, and go to **Settings > Control Panel**.
3. Choose the **Add/Remove** Programs utility.
4. Scroll down in the Add/Remove window until **Video Blaster Digital VCR** is visible in the program list.
5. Highlight Video Blaster Digital VCR and click the **Add/Remove...** button. (**Change/Remove** for Windows 2000)
6. The Setup Maintenance window will open.
7. Select the **Modify** option by clicking its radio button.
8. Click the **Next** button to begin the process.



9. When the components window opens, select which parts of the application are to be updated. A selected item appears with a check mark in the box next to its name, as seen above.
10. Click the box next to any checked item to deselect it, removing the check mark. These items will not be updated.
11. When the components to be updated are selected, click the **Next** button to continue.
12. The update utility replaces the selected components.
13. Depending upon which components of the software were selected, you may want to make changes to the MPG folder as well. During the Modify operation, you will be prompted to choose an option for saving or deleting the MPG folder contents.



14. Select the option that best suits your needs by clicking its radio button.
15. Click **Next** to continue.
16. You are presented with an option to remove the application directory. Select **No**, and press the **Enter** button.
17. Click the **Finish** button to complete the operation and exit the utility.

Using the Repair Option

Use the Repair option to reinstall the software components. This is useful if you suspect that a component of the software has become damaged or corrupt. This option will replace all of the contents of the application folder with fresh copies, but does not require you to set up preferences again.

To repair the currently installed version of the software and drivers:

1. Quit the Digital VCR application before proceeding.
2. Click the Start Menu, and go to **Settings > Control Panel**.
3. Choose **Add/Remove Programs**.
4. Scroll down in the Add/Remove window until Video Blaster Digital VCR is visible in the program list.
5. Highlight Video Blaster Digital VCR and click the **Add/Remove...** button. (**Change/Remove** for Windows 2000)
6. The Setup Maintenance window will open.
7. Select the **Repair** option by clicking its radio button.
8. Click the **Next** button to begin the process.
9. The uninstall application will run and the software and drivers will be removed.
10. When the uninstall process completes, click the **Finish** button to continue.

Using the Remove Option

The Remove option is used to completely uninstall the Digital VCR application. You may want to do this, for example, if you decide to move the Digital VCR card to another computer system.

During the process of removing the software, you are given the opportunity to save or delete the MPG folder that contains your recorded programs. If you want to preserve your recorded programs, choose the option to *not* remove the MPG folder.

Also, when removing the software you are given the option of deleting the Digital VCR application folder and its contents. If you want to preserve the settings from the Setup Wizard and any other files that may have been saved in the application folder, choose the option to save the application directory. When your setup preferences are preserved, it is not necessary to enter new preference settings when the new version of the application is launched.

If you are removing the software in order to resolve a problem or conflict, removing the original application folder will guarantee that all components of the original installation are eliminated. You will have to run the Setup Wizard again to reset your preferences in this situation.

To uninstall the software and drivers for the Digital VCR application:

1. Quit the Digital VCR application before proceeding.
2. Click the Start Menu, and go to **Settings > Control Panel**.
3. Now choose **Add/Remove Programs**. The Add/Remove window will open.
4. Scroll down until Video Blaster Digital VCR is visible in the program list.
5. Highlight Video Blaster Digital VCR and click the **Add/Remove...** button. (**Change/Remove** for Windows 2000)
6. The Setup Maintenance window will open.
7. Select **Remove** by clicking its radio button.
8. The uninstall application will run and the software/drivers will be removed.
9. You will be prompted to save or delete the MPG folder and/or the application folder.
10. When the uninstall process completes, click **OK** to continue.

If you look in the Add/Remove Programs list again, you will find that the Video Blaster Digital VCR application is no longer present.



NOTE: Note: The contents of your MPG folder (the folder where all recorded programs are stored) will not be removed unless you delete it as part of the uninstall process. When updating the software, it is not necessary to delete previously recorded shows.

KEY COMMANDS

Keyboard Shortcuts and Key Commands

The following table lists the PC keyboard commands that can be used to operate the Digital VCR in addition to using the buttons on the remote control.

KEY:	FUNCTION:
RIGHT MOUSE CLICK	Opens the Main Menu during playback or live TV broadcast
DOUBLE-CLICK	Double-click the Live TV window to toggle from full screen to windowed
IN A MENU	Typing the first letter of a menu item selects that item
L	Live TV
SPACEBAR	Start Playback
S	Stop Playback
D	Rewind
F	Fast Forward
COMMA, <	Replay (pressing the Shift key is not required)
PERIOD, >	Skip (pressing the Shift key is not required)
P	Pause Playback
BACKSPACE, ESC	Back
R	Record
M	Main Menu
U	Mute audio
I	Info
A, B, C	Selects an on-screen option; same as remote
ENTER	Select item; same as remote control "Enter"
ARROW KEYS	Left/Right and Up/Down navigation, channel change, and volume control

NUMBER KEYS	Numeric entry & channel select; same as remote
ALT + TAB	Cycles through the open windows to access the software remote control.
ALT + O	In windowed video mode, opens the Options menu
ALT + S	In windowed video mode, opens the Shortcuts menu
ALT + H	In windowed video mode, opens the Help menu
ALT + F4	Quit the Digital VCR application



NOTE: When running Digital VCR in a window, remember that the keyboard shortcuts will not work unless the Digital VCR application is the front application or window on your desktop. (Click the title bar of a window to bring it to the front on the desktop.)

Remote Control Shortcuts

To Do This:	Do This:
Select a channel	[number] + ENTER
Toggle the last two live TV channels	Press BACK repeatedly
Replay more than 10 seconds	Press REPLAY once for each 10-second increment
Replay more than 10 seconds	[number] + REPLAY (amounts are in minutes)
Skip more than 30 seconds	Press SKIP once for each 30-second increment
Skip more than 30 seconds	[number] + SKIP (amounts are in minutes)
Toggle on-screen display options	Press INFO repeatedly
Exit pause	Press PLAY
Frame advance	Press PAUSE repeatedly
Change rewind speed	Press REW repeatedly
Rewind by an exact amount	[number] + REW (amounts are in minutes)
Change fast forward speed	Press FF repeatedly
Fast Forward by an exact amount	[number] + FF (amounts are in minutes)
Play a recording from the beginning	Press (zero) 0 + PLAY
Start playback at a specific time	[number] + PLAY (amounts are in minutes)
Set a Bookmark using the default settings	Double-click BOOKMARK
Slow motion play (forward or backward)	Press PAUSE + REW (or FF)
Select a slow motion play rate - forward	Press PAUSE + FF , then FF again to change the rate
Select a slow motion play rate - backward	Press PAUSE + REW , then REW again to change the rate

In the Remote Control Shortcuts, **[number]** is used to indicate a command where numeric entry from the remote control can be used.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Overview

This chapter provides tips for solving problems you may encounter during installation or normal use. Some frequently asked questions have been included.

Windows does not recognize the Digital VCR card

- Turn off the power to your PC. Check that your Digital VCR card is firmly seated in the PCI slot. Then, restart the PC.
- The Digital VCR must have its drivers properly installed. Use the Windows Device Manager to double-check that the Digital VCR drivers are installed.

There is no picture using a home TV antenna or cable service that terminates in a wall-mounted jack (no cable box).

- Check that the cable from your antenna, or from your cable TV service wall outlet, is properly and securely connected to the RF/Tuner Input on the Digital VCR card.
- Make the connections as simple as possible. Remove any other equipment connected between your home TV antenna, or your cable TV service wall outlet, and the input on your Digital VCR card (such as a VCR, digital camera, game system, etc.).
- During setup, you need to select the source of your TV signals. If the wrong source is selected, there may be no live TV picture.
Click **START >>> PROGRAMS >>> CREATIVE >>> VB DIGITAL VCR >>> RECONFIGURE VB DIGITAL VCR**.
Click the Wizard button to return to the original format.
Check the settings that were chosen for the **Input Connector Selection** and **Tuner Input Selection** pages. The **Input Connector Selection** should be set to **Tuner Input**, and the **Tuner Input Selection** should be set to **ANTENNA** for standard TV antennas, or **CABLE** for a cable TV service wall outlet.

There is no picture using a cable service that terminates in a cable box.

- If the cable TV box offers S-Video outputs and you have connected an S-Video cable from the cable box to the Digital VCR card's S-Video input, the **Input Connector Selection** should be set to **S-Video Input**. The **Tuner Input Selection** should be set to **Cable Box**.
- If you are using the RF/Tuner input, it is important that the correct channel be selected for communication with your cable TV box. Most boxes use either channel 3 or channel 4. The **Tuner Input Selection** page of the Setup Wizard contains the settings for this parameter.
- Check that the cable running from your cable TV box is properly and securely connected to the RF/Tuner Input on the Digital VCR card.
- Make the connections as simple as possible. Remove any other equipment connected between your cable TV box and the input on your Digital VCR card (such as a VCR, digital camera, game system, etc.).

- During setup, you need to select the source of your TV signals. If the wrong source is selected, there may be no live TV picture.
Click **START >>> PROGRAMS >>> CREATIVE >>> VB DIGITAL VCR >>> RECONFIGURE VB DIGITAL VCR**
Click the Wizard button to return to the original format.
Check the settings that were chosen for the **Input Connector Selection** and **Tuner Input Selection** pages. The **Input Connector Selection** should be set to **Tuner Input** if you are using the RF outputs from the cable TV box (a single cable).

There is no picture using a satellite service.

- If the satellite box offers S-Video outputs and you have connected an S-Video cable from the satellite box to the Digital VCR card's S-Video input, the Input Connection Selection should be set to S-Video Input. The Tuner Input Selection should be set to Satellite Box.
- If you are using the RF/Tuner input, it is important that the correct channel be selected for communication with your satellite box. Most boxes use either channel 3 or channel 4. The Tuner Input Selection page of the Setup Wizard contains the settings for this parameter.
- Check that the cable running from your satellite box is properly and securely connected to the RF/Tuner Input on the Digital VCR card.
- Make the connections as simple as possible. Remove any other equipment connected between your satellite TV box and the input on your Digital VCR card (such as a VCR, digital camera, game system, etc.).
- During setup, you need to select the source of your TV signals. If the wrong source is selected, there may be no live TV picture.
Click **START >>> PROGRAMS >>> CREATIVE >>> VB DIGITAL VCR >>> RECONFIGURE VB DIGITAL VCR**
Click the Wizard button to return to the original format.
Check the settings that were chosen for the **Input Connector Selection** and **Tuner Input Selection** pages. The **Input Connector Selection** should be set to **Tuner Input** if you are using the RF outputs from the satellite box (a single cable).

There is no audio.

- Check that the audio is not muted. Do this by pressing the Volume Up button (right arrow) on the remote control. The screen will show the current volume setting in increments of 5%.
- When using the S-Video output from a device (cable box, satellite box, VCR, etc.), you need to connect the audio outputs from the device to the audio input jack on the Digital VCR card. Sound is then heard through your PC sound system.

The audio is out of sync with the video signal.

- If you have the audio outputs from your S-Video device connected to a separate audio system, the video and audio signals may play back out of sync. When using the S-Video output from a device, you need to connect the audio outputs from the device to the audio input jack on the Digital VCR card. Sound output is played through your PC sound system.

Using an external device, the picture is in black and white, not in color as expected.

- In the Setup Wizard, there is a user parameter on the Video Input Selection page that selects Composite or S-Video as the signal type coming from your external device. If the wrong signal type is selected on the Video Input Selection page, the picture quality may be compromised. Check the settings in the Setup Wizard by running DVSetup.exe again.

The Remote Control is not working

- Check that the Infrared Remote Sensor cable is firmly seated in the socket on the Digital VCR card.
- Check the batteries in the remote control; replace them with fresh AAA 1.5-volt batteries to be certain. Both batteries need to be firmly seated inside the remote control, and they need to be oriented as shown on the inside of the battery compartment.
- Make sure that the Infrared Remote Sensor is not blocked by other components of your PC. Reposition it if necessary.

Nothing happens when the remote control Menu button is pressed.

- Check the Task Bar to be certain that the Digital VCR icon is there. If the application is not available, it is possible that the option to automatically start the Digital VCR application was not selected during setup. Launch the Setup Wizard (DVSetup.exe). Go the Program Options page. There is a check box for the option Automatically start Digital VCR. Click this check box to enable the option. Save the new Settings and exit the Setup Wizard.

The Windows desktop cannot be seen when Digital VCR is running.

- To watch TV in a window, double click the live TV picture. To return to full screen viewing, double-click the live picture again.
- During setup, the default screen size can be specified. Launch the Setup Wizard (DVSetup.exe). Go the Program Options page. There is a section for Graphic Options. Click the Change Display Resolution check box to enable the feature. Then, select a default window size from the Screen Size pop-up box. You can also specify a location on the desktop where the window should be placed by typing in coordinates in the X/Y boxes.
- When the Digital VCR application is running, display size settings can be changed from the Main Menu. These settings will be remembered when to put the Digital VCR in Standby mode, and after you quit and launch the application again. To change the display size, press the Main Menu button. In the Main Menu, select Options. Then, select Display from the menu. Choose one of the options for display size; your display size will be changed immediately. Display Size can also be changed from the Display Windows, click on Options, then click on Display Size. Choose one of the options for display size.

The Setup Wizard will not allow the recording space size to be edited after the initial installation.

- In order to manage the free space on your hard drive, the recording space parameter can be adjusted from within Digital VCR. From the Main Menu, select Options, then Storage.
- You can delete the default MPG folder to allow the creation of a new one. By deleting, you will lose any recorded program files that are in the MPG folder. Back these files up if you want to keep them.
- If you need additional recording space, you can designate a different folder and/or a different hard disk as the default recording folder. This is done from the Setup Wizard (DVSetup.exe). Launch the Setup Wizard. Go the Storage Options page. Edit the Directory Path directly or click the Browse button to select a new folder and/or hard drive from the Windows dialog box by navigating directly to the location.

The Setup Wizard will not allow the Time Shift Buffer size to be edited after the initial installation.

- Also see “The Setup Wizard will not allow the recording space size to be edited after the initial installation” for additional information.
- The Time Shift Buffer size can be adjusted from within Digital VCR. From the Main Menu, select Options, then Storage.

The PC was placed in Standby mode. A scheduled recording was not completed.

- Not all PCs respond to scheduled wake-up commands. Consult the documentation that came with your PC, or contact the manufacturer.
- The Digital VCR application must be running in Standby mode in order for a scheduled recording to take place while the PC is in Standby mode.

Keyboard commands are not working.

- Keyboard shortcuts invoked from your PC keyboard will only work when the Digital VCR window is the front window on the desktop. The front window on the desktop can be recognized when multiple windows are open by its title bar. The active window has a unique title bar color; all other windows are set to the inactive color, usually gray. To make the Digital VCR window the front window on the desktop, click anywhere in the Digital VCR window.
- Use the Alt+Tab key combination to cycle through the open applications. Select Digital VCR to make it the front application on the desktop.

Poor picture quality

- Check that the settings for DMA are turned on for your hard drive. This is done from the Device Manager. To access the Device Manager, right-click on My Computer. Select Properties from the menu to open the System Properties. Select the Device Manager tab. See the Users Guide for additional information on the Device Manager settings.

No picture - video card not working

- The PC Video card must have hardware overlay support for UYVY or YUY2 surfaces. Consult the documentation that came with your video card for additional information.
- Video cards with less than 2MB of memory will not work.
- These video cards are known not to work with Digital VCR:
 - ❑ Matrox G200
 - ❑ 3DLabs Permedia 2
 - ❑ 3DLabs Permedia 3

When trying to put the PC into Standby mode, there is an error message.

- If you want to put your PC into Standby mode, the Digital VCR application must also be placed into Standby. (In fact, no other applications can be running when the PC goes into Standby mode.) Scheduled recordings will still take place under these conditions. To put Digital VCR into Standby, select Standby from the Main Menu.